

*Hafa Adai!*

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## OPINION METER

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## Younis quits Board of Regents

» Governor's Office claims it didn't get letter from

By MONETH G. DEPOSA  
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REPORTER

With only a month to deal with accreditation issues, Northern Marianas College is now facing a new challenge after the chairperson of the Board of Regents stepped down, resigning both as chair and board member.



Younis

Maria Paz Younis, who became board chair last year after the expiration of Janet King's term on the board, submitted her resignation letter during the board's closed-door meeting on Thursday.

NMC interim president Lorraine T.

Cabrera confirmed Younis' resignation in a statement yesterday, thanking Younis for her dedication and commitment to the college.

"She has always been a staunch supporter of the college and its mission to help improve the quality of life for all residents. During her tenure, she has helped guide the college through one of its difficult periods following the an-

See YOUNIS on Page 4



### 'THIS IS HOW WE BRUSH OUR TEETH'

Second grade student Conatsu Kaga of Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School learns the proper way of brushing teeth from dental hygienist Lori Serna of Seventh Day Adventist Dental Clinic during a presentation yesterday morning. The presentation was part of the clinic's observance of February as National Children's Dental Health Month.

CLARISSA V. DAVID

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## 'FAS-like status' to be replaced

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Senators will change the name of its proposed status for long-term nonresident workers to something that is unique to the CNMI, rather than calling it a "Freely Associated States-like" status that was especially negotiated for citizens of Palau, Marshall Islands, and the Federated States of Micronesia.

Senate Vice President Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian), Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan), and Sen. Ralph Torres (R-Saipan) separately said yesterday that the use of the FAS-like status

See FAS-LIKE on Page 4

## 2 names floated to replace Judge Manglona

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
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REPORTER

Even before the U.S. Senate could confirm President Barack Obama's appointment of CNMI Superior Court associate judge Ramona V. Manglona to serve as U.S. District Court judge for the Northern Mariana Islands, a senator is now counting on at least two possible replacements for Manglona in the local court.

If a vacancy exists in the Superior Court, the governor has to appoint someone, subject to the review and confirmation of the full CNMI Senate.

Senate floor leader Pete Reyes (R-Saipan) said yesterday that while it is up to the governor to appoint anybody, he would support either attorney Viola Alepuyo or Rosemond Santos should their names come up to fill a likely vacancy in the CNMI Superior Court.

See 2 NAMES on Page 4



Santos



Alepuyo



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# Local

## Man gets five years for sexually abusing two girls

The Superior Court imposed yesterday a five-year prison sentence on a man who sexually abused two female minors in Tanapag.

Juan Camacho Taitano, 44, was sentenced to 10 years in prison, all suspended except for five years, for two counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the

second degree. He will not be eligible for parole.

Associate Judge Perry B. Inos ordered Taitano to pay a \$5,000 fine and required him to register as a sex offender. Inos also required Taitano to undergo counseling.

The Office of the Attorney

General had charged Taitano with two counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the first degree and two counts of sexual abuse of a minor in the second degree.

Taitano pleaded guilty to the latter charges as part of a plea bargain. The remaining charges were dismissed.

The agreement states that Taitano, who was then 43, touched the private parts of the two girls on March 6, 2010.

Assistant attorney general Peter Prestley appeared for the government; chief public defender Adam Hardwicke represented Taitano. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

## 3 arrested in domestic violence incidents

Three persons were arrested in separate domestic violence incidents on Saipan over the weekend.

Vernalani Mike, Mark Anthony Hapdei, and Johnny Schofer Reyes were brought to the Superior Court yesterday for bail

hearings. Bail was set at \$1,500 cash each. Preliminary hearings will be on Feb. 22.

Mike and Hapdei were arrested on charges of assault and battery, and disturbing the peace.

Detective Catherine Pangelinan stated in her report that

Mike's boyfriend, Hapdei, allegedly pulled Mike's sister by the hair, punched her, and dragged her to the other side of the house in Lower Navy Hill on Friday afternoon. When the sisters' mother tried to pacify them, Mike allegedly pulled her

mother's hair and pushed her to the floor.

In the other case, Reyes was arrested for assault and battery, and disturbing the peace, for allegedly beating up his girlfriend inside a car in Dandan on Saturday morning. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*



A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority  
*Tourism is everybody's business.*

### Tinian Visitor Arrivals



In December 2010, the island of **Tinian** received 1,552 visitor arrivals. Over half—804—were from **China**, followed by 318 from **Japan**, 233 from **Korea**, and 135 from **Saipan**.

In FY 2010, the Northern Marianas received 40,712 visitors from China, an increase of 46 percent over the previous fiscal year. A large number of those visitors visit Tinian.

This weekend (Feb. 19-20) at Tachogna Beach, the **Marianas Visitors Authority** and municipality of Tinian will host the **6th Tinian Hot Pepper Festival**, an annual signature event aimed at drawing visitors to this picturesque island that is rich in culture and history.



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# Clash of views on bill to allow beneficiaries to sue

By **HAIDEE V. EUGENIO**  
haidee\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Marianas Public Land Trust has joined the NMI Retirement Fund in opposing a bill granting beneficiaries and would-be beneficiaries of trusts and retirement programs to sue on behalf of the trust or the pension program when the latter refuses to bring action.

But the law office of O'Connor Berman Dotts & Baner is in full support of the proposal.

MPLT, the Retirement Fund and attorney Robert J. O'Connor wrote separate letters to the House Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee and House Ways and Means

Committee to express their opposition to or support for Senate Bill 17-43, Senate Draft 1.

O'Connor said the Fund, which has lost over \$150 million in retirement money through bad investments and bad investment advice in the last several years, is opposed to a bill "which would allow the retirees who need those monies to recover them from third parties."

"Before analyzing the Fund's comments one needs to ask this question—why would the Fund's directors who have a fiduciary obligation to the retirees to recover these lost monies, but refuse to take action to do so, oppose a bill which would allow the retirees to protect themselves and recover these mon-

ies," O'Connor said in his letter to JGO Committee chair Rep. Ralph Demapan (Cov-Saipan) and Ways and Means chair Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan).

Fund administrator Richard Villagomez said some of the more troubling aspects of the bill become understandable when considered in the context of an ongoing litigation involving Merrill Lynch, the Fund's former investment consultant.

Three CNMI retirees sued Merrill Lynch, along with the Fund's trustees, in October 2009 for providing "bad advice" to the trustees, resulting in the collapse of its stock investments.

Since then, the three retirees have been encouraging the

Fund trustees to join them in the lawsuit against the former consultant, but the trustees have so far refused.

SB 17-43, SD1 provides a statutory basis for a beneficiary derivative lawsuit.

Under the bill, beneficiaries of trusts and retirement fund programs, both public and private, will be permitted to maintain claims on behalf of the trust or program when trustees refuse to bring action.

MPLT board chair Phillip Mendiola-Long, in a separate letter to Demapan, said MPLT is especially concerned that the enactment of SB 17-43, SD1 will result in negative consequences because of its expansive coverage to public entities.

"One of them is the opening of floodgates of unnecessary litigation and the filing of frivo-

lous suits that will cost taxpayers at least thousands of dollars in attorney's fees and costs each year. For those and other reasons explained below, MPLT strongly opposed the legislation," Mendiola-Long told Demapan.

The bill, he said purports to confer similar standing and rights on trust beneficiaries as shareholders of corporations. He said the reach of the bill goes far beyond that of the Commonwealth Business Corporation Regulation Act.

Mendiola-Long recommends the House to "file" SB 17-43, SD1.

O'Connor, for his part, said the bill "is not overboard, it does not violate the CNMI Constitution separation of powers or contracts clauses, and it is in the public interest that it be passed so retirees can protect their re-

tirement funds when the Retirement Fund will not."

The Fund earlier told lawmakers that the bill is not only unnecessary but is also extremely detrimental to the interests of the pension system, its members and CNMI citizens.

It said as the Fund has some 6,000 members and any potential surviving spouse and child could be an intended beneficiary, as well as the individuals listed as beneficiaries for the \$1,000 lump-sum death benefit, the number of intended beneficiaries of the Fund could be 18,000 to 20,000 individuals.

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### PRE-VALENTINE PARTY

Guests have their picture taken during a Pre-Valentine presentation at the JC Café-Tinian on Friday, Feb. 11, 2011. It was an evening of fun and enjoyment as contestants showed off their talents in the first monthly Showtime contest.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## Tinian's hot pepper festival to make do with smaller budget

Tinian Mayor Ramon M. Dela Cruz said the budget for the celebration of the 7th Tinian Hot Pepper Festival on Feb. 19 to 20 had been significantly reduced.

"Since public funds are limited for this fiscal year, our festival budget had been considerably decreased," Dela Cruz told *Saipan Tribune*.

According to Dela Cruz, the Tinian Mayor's Office will be working with Marianas Visitor's Authority to ensure that this year's festivities will still be a success.

The annual festival, which highlights Tinian's famous hot pepper called *donni sali*, will feature various food as well as arts and crafts booths accompanied by island-style entertainment.

The weekend festivities will include different competitions like Hot Pepper Eating Contest, Dragon Boat Race, Cha Cha Dance Contest, Hermit Crab Race, and the Estofao Pika Cooking Contest.

Dela Cruz said they expect guests from Japan, Korea, and China. The Tinian mayor said his office is still working on a fare deal with Freedom Air and Star Marianas to arrange for the festival to encourage more visitors for the festival.

"With the economy right now, we will still allot a budget for the Hot Pepper Festival

because I believe it's money well-spent," added Dela Cruz. (Clarissa V. David)

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# Man allegedly beats up veterinarian for dog's death

The bench trial of a man accused of beating up a veterinarian outside his clinic in Chalan Lau Lau for the death of a dog began yesterday in the Superior Court.

Associate Judge Ramona V. Manglona presided over the bench trial of Jeremy Togawa Sasamoto. When *Saipan Tribune* left the courtroom yesterday at noon, a government witness—a busi-

nessman—had just completed his testimony.

The businessman said he saw Sasamoto and Dr. Edgar Gordon Tudor arguing outside the Paradise Island Veterinarian Animal Hospital in October 2009.

He said Sasamoto was very upset and very aggressive and that he saw blood above Tudor's left eye.

The witness said that Sasamoto also warned the veterinarian "he should better watch out" before leaving aboard a car.

On cross-examination by Sasamoto's counsel, Robert T. Torres, the witness said he did not see anything happen prior to the argument.

Police said the assault happened outside the Paradise Island Veterinarian Animal Hospital in October 2009.

Detective Jackson Jack stated in his report that as Dr. Tudor was closing

the clinic for the day, he heard a loud banging coming from the hospital's window glass.

Jackson said Tudor came out and a man, later identified as Sasamoto, confronted the victim: "Do you know who I am? You killed my mother's dog!"

The suspect then allegedly grabbed Tudor by the collar and punched him in the face. During the struggle, the veterinarian fell down.

Tudor reportedly sustained a cut above his left eye that required several stitches at the Commonwealth Health Center.

Sasamoto pleaded not guilty to the charges of assault and battery, and disturbing the peace. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

## Sex offender registration bill now heads to governor

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO  
haidEE\_eugenio@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

A House bill re-enacting the sex offender registration and notification laws now heads to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, after the Senate passed it without amendments on Friday.

House Bill 17-111, introduced by Rep. Joseph Palacios (R-Saipan) and Speaker Eli Cabrera (R-Saipan), passed the Senate on a 9-0 vote.

The bill seeks to comply with the

U.S. Department of Justice guidelines by re-enacting the sex offender registration and notification laws.

Under the bill, persons convicted of a criminal offense of a sexual nature against a victim who is a minor, or who is convicted of a sexually violent offense, or is a person known to be a violent sexual predator, should be required to register a current address with law enforcement agencies wherever they reside.

The Department of Public Safety

launched in July 2010 the CNMI Sex Offenders Registry Public Web site, <http://cnmi.nsopw.gov>.

But a registration and notification law, which HB 17-111 intends to do, is needed for the CNMI to be able to avail of federal financial incentives, among other things.

Under the bill, a sex offender's failure to report or providing false information will result in a penalty of up to one year of imprisonment, a \$5,000 fine, or both.

## Foreign workers raise concern in Cook Islands

**WELLINGTON, New Zealand** (RNZI/PIR)—The Cook Islands Tourism Minister, Teina Bishop, says the increasing number of foreign workers entering the country is causing some concern.

Late last year, the Prime Minister launched an initiative to create one thousand nine hundred new jobs in the next four years by developing tourism

and the wider economy.

Prime Minister Henry Puna's announcement sparked concerns that more imported workers would be needed because the Cook Islands does not have the local labour force to fill the new jobs.

The Tourism Minister says he's not familiar with the exact number of foreign workers in the Cook Islands, but

he's aware it's increasing.

Bishop says establishing benchmarks on the types and numbers of foreign workers would act as a protective measure for Cook Islanders who may be disadvantaged by their presence.

He says a review of immigration policies being advocated by the Prime Minister could be a way of addressing the issue of cheap labor."

## FAS-LIKE

From Page 1

has ramifications.

"The FAS terminology is a very sensitive issue because it's a negotiated term for citizens of FSM, Palau, and the Marshall Islands. We are changing the way we are calling it, to be more acceptable to Congress and regulatory agencies. If we continue on labeling it FAS status, there will be ramifications," Hofschneider told *Saipan Tribune*.

Reyes, in a separate interview, said it may be called "CNMI-only resident status."

Hofschneider, chairman of the Committee on Federal Relations and Independent Agencies that is leading the status issue, said the panel may also change the phrase to "CNMI resident status."

"This is one of the issues the committee is working on, to make the status unique to the CNMI. But again, we want to make it clear that the ultimate approval authority is the U.S.

Congress. We are just recommending," he added.

The latest draft recommendation from the CNMI Senate is to allow nonresident workers who have been in the CNMI for at least 10 years by May 2008 to become eligible to apply for a FAS-like status by 2013.

Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan had said one of the problems with this additional five-year wait is the separation of families after November 2011, when the CNMI-issued umbrella permits expire.

Reyes said the committee has received information there are some 1,500 individuals who are dependents of foreign workers and who do not have employment contracts.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), for his part, said he has always supported having improved status for nonresident workers "because we don't have enough workforce."

"Without nonresident workers, our businesses will further go down and more people will be laid off. If we don't find a solution to this, then the U.S. De-

partment of Homeland Security or the Interior Department will just let Public Law 110-229 take its course. It will not be good for the CNMI," he said.

Under PL 110-229, the law that placed CNMI immigration under federal control, the nonresident worker population will be reduced to zero. The existing foreign workers will have to apply for and be approved for federal labor status, or they will have to exit the CNMI, unless they are given another kind of status.

The CNMI Senate will hold a last round of public hearings on the issue on Feb. 18 on Rota; Feb. 24 on Saipan; and Feb. 25 on Tinian.

The United Workers Movement-NMI, the Marianas Advocates for Humanitarian Affairs Ltd. or Mahal, and Dekada Movement have all lauded the CNMI Senate for taking the initiative of recommending something to the U.S. Congress. Dekada supports a FAS-like status, while UWM-NMI and Mahal are pushing for permanent residency, commonly referred to as "green card," or U.S. citizenship.

government chief prosecutor and former representative. Alepuyo is the wife of former Covenant delegate candidate and former House floor leader Joseph Camacho, while Santos is part-owner of Blue Continent Communications, which operates the new KKMP radio station.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, when asked for comment, said the governor "has not selected a nominee for a post that is yet to be vacated."

Reyes said if neither Alepuyo nor Santos gets nominated, he will support somebody from the Office of the Attorney General. He, however, declined to identify the government lawyer he would also support.

Sen. Frank Cruz (R-Tinian), EAGI Committee chairman, said it will be up to the governor whom to appoint.

Cruz said he respects the governor's decision, but he said he is only hoping

that the governor "consider" or look into the possibility of appointing an attorney from Tinian to sit on the Superior Court judge.

"That will be historic, too, for Tinian and the CNMI, to have somebody from Tinian appointed to the court. Again, I would like to make it clear that it will be up to the governor. I am just expressing my hope," he said.

President Obama nominated Manglona on Jan. 26, along with five others to seats in other U.S. district courts.

This is the first time that someone from the CNMI has been nominated by a U.S. president to serve on the U.S. District Court. Manglona's nomination needs to be confirmed by the U.S. Senate.

Once confirmed, Manglona will replace Alex. R. Munson, who retired on Feb. 28, 2010, after 22 years with the federal court.

## ERRATUM

The story titled "Five more companies fail to pay \$215.4K in local taxes" that was published yesterday, Feb. 14, 2011, incorrectly states that Advance Marine Saipan Corp. owes taxes for 2008 to 2010. This is incorrect. The matter has already been cleared with Revenue and Taxation. We apologize for the error.

## YOUNIS

From Page 1

nouncement of NMC's show-cause status," said Cabrera.

The Fitial administration could not immediately confirm Younis' resignation as the Office of the Governor has yet to receive a copy of her resignation letter. All NMC regents are appointed by the governor.

"The governor has yet to receive such resignation letter. Thus, my office cannot issue any comments until such time that he receives and has read the communication," said press secretary Angel Demapan yesterday.

Younis was said to be off-island yesterday.

According to Demapan, the administration recognizes the importance of NMC's regents, especially at this critical juncture for the college. But still, "until Governor Fitial receives the chair's letter, we do not know at this point the basis of her resignation if, in fact, she has made this decision."

NMC's Cabrera assured that Younis' resignation will not affect the college's efforts to prepare its March 15, 2011 report. "We are on track to meet our March 15 deadline to submit the show-cause report."

NMC board vice chair Elaine Orilla will automatically step in as acting chairperson to replace Younis. Orilla declined, however, to comment on Younis' resignation besides saying that the board will elect a new chairperson if the position is formally vacated.

Younis began serving her term on the board in July 2009 and served as vice chairperson prior to becoming its chairperson in October last year.

### 'Personal reason'

With Younis' departure, both the NMC management and its Board of Regents now lack chief executive officers.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that Younis, who is co-publisher of the *Marianas Variety*, cited "personal reasons" for stepping down. Her letter states that her resignation is effective Feb. 14.

Her departure leaves two vacancies on the board, including the slot of Charles Cepeda who resigned last year.

This leaves Orilla, Malua Peter, Andrew Orsini, Juan Lizama, and Frank Rabauliman on the board.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that Younis was asked by her colleagues to "reconsider" her decision. Alternatively, they suggested that she just step down as chair but not from the board itself, prompted by concerns that this could fuel accreditation concerns about the unstable leadership at the college.

### Exigency

During Thursday's special meeting, board members and management officials were split in their position about declaring a state of exigency at the college. The proposal was intended to give the college management the "tools" it may need to work on the accreditation concerns.

The proposal was later defeated after management representatives convinced board members that current policies and procedures already in place are enough to enable them to handle accreditation concerns.

The declaration of exigency requires the suspension of policies and procedures—an approach that management officials said sends a "wrong signal" to the accrediting commission.

Younis, according to interim president Cabrera, was the one who instructed the drafting of the exigency resolution—to the surprise of other members.

Younis said the proposed exigency resolution aims to assist the president in filling urgent positions such as chief administrative financial officer, and other key positions required in the accreditation report.

It was also during Thursday's special meeting when Orsini, who is also the personnel committee and presidential search panel chair, raised concerns about "transparency" in the board.

He disclosed that no reports were provided to members about what had transpired in the commission's meeting in San Francisco where Younis, Cabrera, and accreditation liaison officer Galvin Deleon Guerrero spoke in front of the commission.

The three cited the "rules of confidentiality" for not providing any report or information about the assembly.

## 2 NAMES

From Page 1

Reyes, one of the longest serving CNMI lawmakers, is a member of the Senate Executive Appointments and Governmental Investigations Committee, which reviews the governor's appointees either for Senate confirmation or rejection.

"I'm very confident that Judge Manglona will be confirmed by the U.S. Senate. And when that happens, and if the governor appoints either Viola Alepuyo or Rosemond Santos, I will support any one of them," Reyes told *Saipan Tribune* in an interview.

Alepuyo is the NMI Retirement Fund board's legal counsel and is the chair of the Commonwealth Public Utilities Corp., while Santos is a former



# CUC asks for extension on deadline to clean tank system

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Commonwealth Utilities

Corp. has asked federal and local courts for a 90-day extension on the deadline to clean its tank system—one of the require-

ments of a stipulated agreement with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

The tank system cleanout refers to the cleaning and integrity testing of all CUC tanks. Under the second stipulated order, the utilities firm supposedly had only until Feb. 15 to complete the requirement, which it failed to meet anew.

In a notice filed in court yesterday, CUC counsel Deborah E. Fisher said CUC has successfully completed most of the requirements of the tank system cleanout plan last week. This includes emptying and shipping all used oil from the Rota facility.

"EPA approved CUC's request to recycle used oil being shipped from Rota. This provides the Commonwealth business community with an op-

portunity to save on imported diesel fuel, which recently has become more expensive.

"This work was completed last week and all the used oil in tanks, transformers, and drums at the Rota facility were emptied pursuant to the approval received," Fisher explained in the notice.

What remains pending is the cleanout of Rota tanks, which requires bidding, and the formal submission of a cleanout plan for Power Plant 4 by independent power producer Pacific Marine and Industrial Corp. in Lower Base.

CUC also asked for a 90-day extension for the completion of the secondary containment assessment in anticipation of delays caused by unforeseen events. The deadline for these

assessments is March 7, 2011.

CUC explained that construction designs and plans, as well as changes in the CNMI Uniform Building Code, are the reasons for the delay in the assessment of power plants 1 and 2.

"There was a redesign of the berm repair for the incinerator to increase the wall height to accommodate the required containment volume. There was a discovery of buried high tension power cables, which was not known previously and required a change of design. Weather conditions also delayed the project implementation at CUC power plants 1 and 2," the CUC filing stated.

In addition, it said that "recent changes to the CNMI Uniform Building Code required the structure to be able to withstand

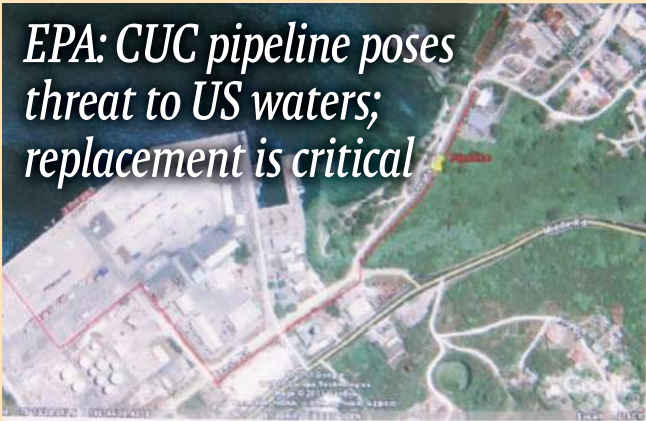
up to 175 mph (revised from 155 mph) wind speed, which will require heavier trusses and bracing. Finally, there was a need to extend the truck unloading area to allow safe maneuvering of fuel trucks which would be backing up in the berm."

As for Power Plant 4, CUC explained that PMIC only recently finalized the work plans for the secondary containment.

"Their initial design had not accounted for the changes at the facility due to the relocation of the generator sets and associated piping," it said, adding that a revised secondary containment design was approved by EPA on Jan. 29, 2011.

On Feb. 8, 2011 CUC made a submission to EPA disclosing the "discovery of cracks" in some berms. CUC expects that PMIC will hire a person to assess their containment plan and propose corrective steps as required.

## EPA: CUC pipeline poses threat to US waters; replacement is critical



FERDIE DE LA TORRE

Map shows location of the CUC pipeline from the Mobil oil depot to the power plants 1 and 2 in Lower Base.

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
ferdie\_delatorre@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Until the Commonwealth Utilities Corp.'s oil pipeline is properly repaired or replaced, it poses a threat to United States waters, according to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Bradley R. O'Brien, counsel for EPA, stated in his report filed yesterday in federal court that the CUC pipeline has been poorly maintained and has degraded to a condition that is no longer safe to operate at pressure.

"Due to the extreme corrosion along the pipeline resulting from age, weather conditions, and poor maintenance and upkeep, the pipeline has leaks in different segments a few times a year," O'Brien said.

O'Brien underscored the need for CUC to identify and secure a funding source for the pipeline replacement.

The CUC pipeline is an eight-inch aboveground receiving pipeline that delivers fuel to CUC power plants 1 and 2 in Lower Base from the Mobil oil facility. The pipeline is about a mile in length and begins at the marine terminal. At various times, it reportedly runs within 100 feet of the Philippine Sea and the Pacific Ocean.

The second joint stipulation entered by EPA and CUC established a new June 1, 2011, construction deadline for this pipeline project. As early as November 2010, CUC already expected it won't be able to meet that deadline due to lack of funding.

CUC counsel Deborah Fisher stated at that time that if funding is not available by Dec. 1, 2010, it is unlikely that the pipeline project will be completed on time.

In EPA's report yesterday, O'Brien said that, while oil transfers occur through this pipeline approximately every 20 days, pipeline leaks occur even when oil is not being transferred.

O'Brien said CUC has re-

placed some segments which have failed, but replacement of segments with new pipes and connecting them to the corroded, weaker segments may increase the rate of failure of the weaker segments.

He said in order to identify and report leaks that happen along the pipeline, CUC has a security guard that walks the pipeline 24 hours a day.

On the funding issue, O'Brien said EPA recently learned that some of the sources eyed by CUC were not available and that different avenues of funding were being pursued.

While it is clear that CUC will not meet the construction deadline, O'Brien said the utilities agency has failed to provide a revised schedule for the completion of design, ordering and shipping of materials, and construction of pipeline.

EPA, O'Brien said, provided photographs of the pipeline to show why it is so critical to replace the pipeline as soon as possible.

He said an environmental assessment may need to be performed because CUC is proposing to relocate the new pipeline in a new right of way.

The lawyer said materials for the pipeline replacement will need to be procured and then shipped to Saipan.

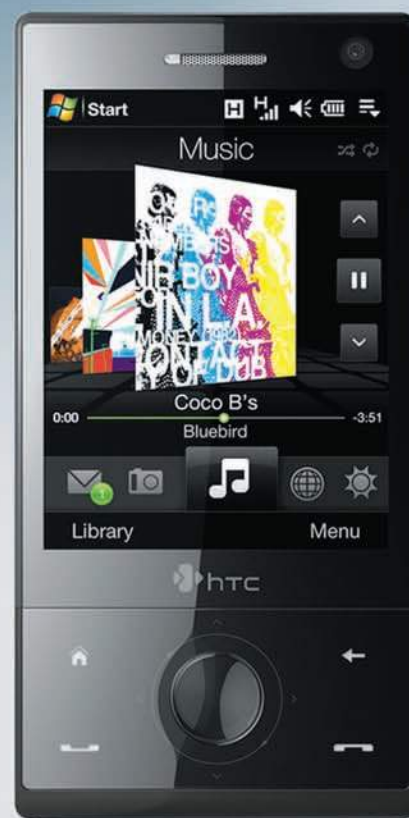
He said it is unlikely that this process will take between two to four months, and that once the materials have arrived, construction can begin and may take up to three months to complete.

O'Brien said during some of the period of construction, the existing pipeline will need to be taken out of service and that CUC may need to use tanker trucks to transport fuel to the power plants.

This project, he added, will not only need a construction manager, but will also require strong project management from CUC (or a contractor) to ensure safe construction and effective coordination with the power plants and Mobil Oil.

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# Ex-NMC prexy Fernandez now at Modesto Junior College

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The former president of the Northern Marianas College, Dr. Carmen Fernandez, is now working at the California-based Modesto Junior College.

According to the college's website, Fernandez was hired as the institution's interim vice president of the College and Administration Services effective this year.

The department, according to its website, supports all in-

structional and student support programs by providing accounting, duplication, mail, and facility usage services. The unit also informs the college community with budget news and other financial information.

Fernandez's hiring was an-

nounced by college president Dr. Gaither Loewenstein during the Jan. 11 meeting of the college's foundation board, based on the minutes of that meeting.

Fernandez, who was terminated as NMC president in April last year, had sued the Board of

Regents for "unlawfully" firing her. The lawsuit is pending. In previous months, she had court ordered NMC and Fernandez to settle the case; that remains pending. Without a settlement agreement, trial is expected to begin in court.

Since Fernandez's termination, NMC has been placed on continued show-cause



Fernandez

by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges due to, among other reasons, NMC's lack of a president. Records show that NMC has had seven presidents in the last 10 years.

In its February 2011 show-cause order, NMC has until March 15 to submit a show-cause report, followed by a special team visit from the commission. A decision is expected at the June assembly of WASC. The continued show-cause was a result of the college's failure to address 10 team recommendations.

The college was first placed on show-cause status in 2008. It was reaffirmed in June 2009, under the leadership of Fernandez. A year later, the college was again on show-cause status.

## 70 join annual Valentine walk

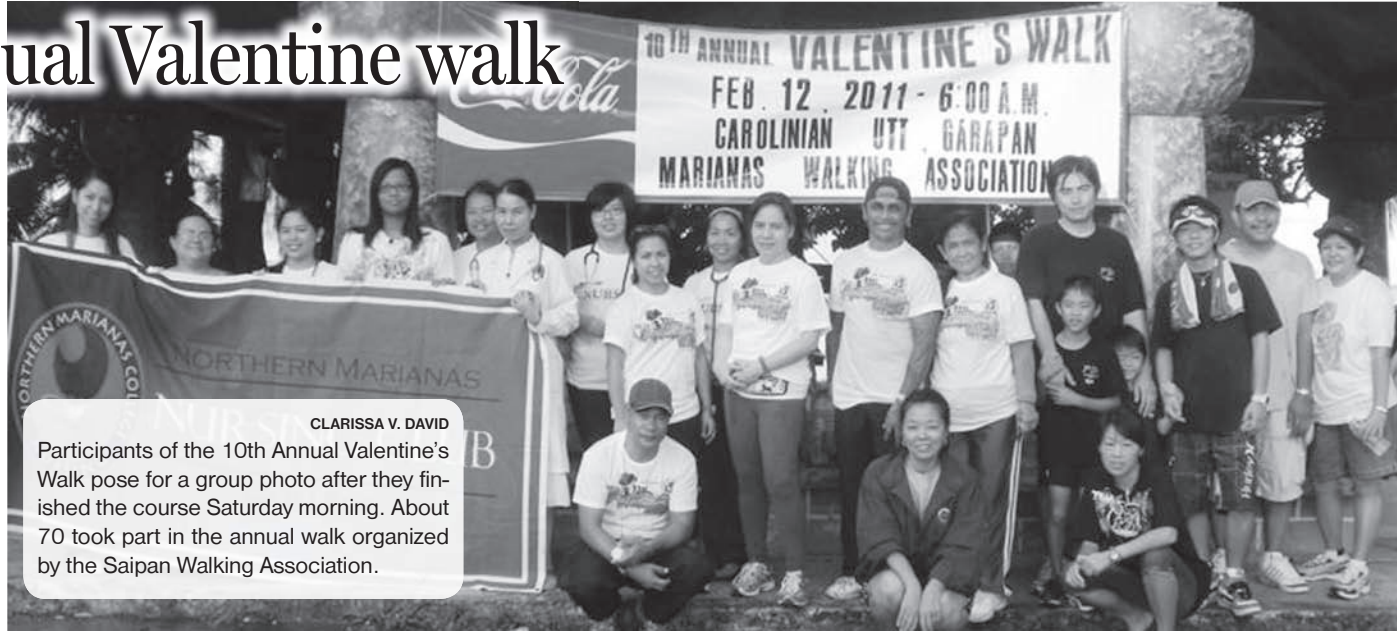
By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

About 70 community members took part in the 10th Annual Valentine's Walk organized by Marianas Walking Association last Feb. 12.

The annual walk, which started off at the Carolinian Utt in Garapan, comprised two courses. The short course covered all the way to the old Japanese tank by the Quartermaster Road and back while the longer 10K course's turning point was the bus stop at the Oleai Beach Bar and back.

Hiroko Tajima, Marianas Walking Association board member, said participants of the annual walk also included employees of DFS Galleria and Pacific Development Inc., which have regularly supported the group's activities.

Participants were given water and fruits for refreshments as well as heart-shaped cookies in celebration of Valentine's Day.



CLARISSA V. DAVID  
Participants of the 10th Annual Valentine's Walk pose for a group photo after they finished the course Saturday morning. About 70 took part in the annual walk organized by the Saipan Walking Association.

They were also able to avail of free blood sugar and blood pressure screenings, thanks to the Northern Marianas College Nursing Club.

"We are really happy that these people joined the Valentine walk, our first event for 2011. I hope more people will join us in our bigger event, which is the SOPHIA Walk," Tajima told *Saipan Tribune*.

Held in conjunction with World Walking Day, this year's Saipan Outdoor Physical Invigorating Adventure or SOPHIA walk will be held on May 15 and is co-sponsored by Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan.

Tajima disclosed that participants for the SOPHIA Walk include Walking Association members from Japan.

Other annual walks con-

ducted by the Saipan Walking Association are the Aqua Walk in July, Foundation Walk in Au-

gust, Turkey Walk in November, and the Christmas Walk in December.

## Fatima pilgrim statue visits man'amko

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Saipan's senior citizens received spiritual blessings with the visit of the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima at the Aging Center yesterday morning.

The *man'amko* offered prayers and songs for the visiting pilgrim statue brought by its team of custodians.

The Roman Catholic faithful all over the world credit Our Lady of Fatima for countless miracles that began with the appearance of the Virgin Mary to three shepherd children in 1917.

The International Pilgrim Virgin Statue, carved on Oct. 13, 1947 by Jose Thedim and blessed by the Bishop of Leiria in Fatima, Portugal, was sent out to bring the message of Fatima to the world.

It has visited more than 100 countries, including Russia and China. Many miracles and signal graces are reported wherever the statue travels, including shedding tears many times.

On Jan. 31, the CNMI welcomed for the first time the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima, which has visited all parishes on Saipan and is also scheduled to visit Rota and Tinian.

Dr. Jose Maria P. Alcasid, a temporary custodian, said their team decided to bring the pilgrim to the Aging Center as part of their efforts to spread the devotion to and the message of Our Lady of Fatima.

"The International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima has traveled all over the world and now in the CNMI to remind us about the Fatima's profound message

to the people," Alcasid told *Saipan Tribune*.

According to Alcasid, the devotion to Our Lady of Fatima involves a life of prayer, penance and sacrifice, and amendment of life.

As part of the devotion, Alcasid said devotees are encouraged to wear the Fatima scapular, pray the rosary, and offer sacrifices for the conversion of sinners.

Saipan Seniors Advisory Council Teresita Sorroza said the *man'amko* are blessed to welcome the miraculous image of Our Lady of Fatima.

"The visit of Our Lady of Fatima is a big help as it helped us fulfill our spiritual needs," she said.

The international pilgrim statue will depart the CNMI on Feb. 21 for a scheduled visit to Rhode Island.



CLARISSA V. DAVID  
Three *man'amko* offer prayers to the International Pilgrim Virgin Statue of Our Lady of Fatima during its visit to the Aging Center yesterday morning.



### General Membership Meeting

All friends, volunteers, partners, and clients of the Commonwealth Cancer Association (CCA), and all members of the community, are invited to the general membership meeting on Wednesday, February 16, 2011 at the Department of Public Health, Secretary's Conference Room, at 5:30pm.

The agenda will include annual reports of the President, Treasurer, and Program Manager; election of four CCA Board members; and opportunity for public comments. Nominations for board members will be accepted in advance and on the floor.

To submit a board nomination, or for more information, contact CCA Program Manager Tina Sablan at 682-0050 or email [cca@ccamarianas.org](mailto:cca@ccamarianas.org).

[www.ccamarianas.org](http://www.ccamarianas.org)



# Mendoza named PSS counselor of the year for 2011

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**  
moneth\_deposa@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

The Public School System named Patricia Lynn Mendoza as its counselor of the year for 2011 in a simple ceremony at Oleai Elementary School last Friday.

Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan handed the plaque of recognition to the OES counselor honoring her untiring dedication and commitment to PSS.

Mendoza has been working at PSS since 2002 and became counselor to OES students in 2009.

Since joining the OES, Men-

doza has been pro-active in improving the school's counseling program. Her willingness to listen to students and her partnership with teachers are her greatest strengths, ensuring that the school's goal to nurture students to become productive members of the community is achieved.

Mendoza described the honor as "unexpected." It was Friday when she was called to what she thought was a regular staff meeting at the cafeteria when Sablan and Human Resource director Charlie Kenty made the surprise announcement.

"I am very much surprised! I just thought I was going to attend our in-service meeting and

I didn't suspect anything," she told *Saipan Tribune*, adding that the award is an honor for her and all counselors who are working hard to promote school counseling programs in public schools.

Mendoza is chair of the statewide counselors core group for elementary schools. She described her peers as individuals who are truly involved in the "heart and soul" of every school's activities.

It was Mendoza's first time to win the PSS-wide counselor of the year award. Three years ago,

she was named Hopwood Junior High School's support staff of the year, when the counselor post was still classified under the support staff category.

Mendoza is the second recipient of the overall award, following William S. Reyes Elementary School counselor Rebecca Flores in 2010.

This month, PSS joined the nation in celebrating the Counselors' Awareness Month, which coincides with the awarding of the counselor of the year award.

Prior to joining the OES turtle family, Mendoza served

Hopwood as a counselor for six years. Tucked under her belt are numerous accomplishments that include helping form the counseling program at OES and modeling the counseling program of the American School Counselors Association.

She has also been actively involved in the Project Familia Giya Marianas program, which aims to educate parents on childhood obesity. She has also volunteered to attend professional development sessions that will enable her to work in tandem with the classroom teachers.

Last summer, Mendoza par-

ticipated in a deaf and hard-of-hearing training in which teachers, staff, and parents learn how to sign to communicate with deaf and hard-of-hearing students. She also participated in the Classroom Instruction that Works, a research-based program offered by the Mid-Continent Regional Educational Laboratories.

According to PSS, Mendoza has also helped other counselors by offering ways to improve their counseling programs. For instance, she shared how she established "Lunch Buddies" at OES, which was created to assist students with autism develop social skills.



Mendoza



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO  
Education Commissioner Rita A. Sablan, seated front, fifth from left, and PSS counselor of the year awardee Patricia Mendoza, seated center, pose with the Oleai Elementary School employees and staff after the awarding rites Friday at the school cafeteria.

## 40 GTC second graders learn about importance of brushing one's teeth

By **CLARISSA V. DAVID**  
clarissa\_david@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

In observance of February as National Children's Dental Health Month, the Seventh Day Adventist Dental Clinic conducted a presentation on the importance of dental health to students of Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School yesterday morning.

About 40 second grade students from two different classes learned about caring for their teeth and gums through storytelling, demonstrations, and various activities from dental hygienist Lori Serna.

In an interview, Serna said school visits are part of the activities Seventh Day Adventist Dental Clinic has lined up for the month to educate and raise the level of awareness of students on good dental hygiene.

"Education is the key to prevention. Most of these kids are told to brush their teeth but they don't know why. It's important

to explain to them what happens if they don't. If they understand and know why they have to, then they'll brush regularly," she explained.

Serna added that in explaining about dental hygiene to students, she would use as an example how bacteria can grow in anyone's teeth—including famous young celebrities like Justin Bieber and Hanna Montana—if they are not taken cared of.

According to Serna, children should also be encouraged to visit a dentist as early as the age of one year.

"A child should see a dentist by age of one. Parents should learn about the importance of intervention so that dental problems don't grow bigger as a child grows older," Serna told *Saipan Tribune*.

Serna noted that proper nutrition is also a key to good dental health.

"Getting the kids to eat healthy snacks such as apple



CLARISSA DAVID  
Dental hygienist Lori Serna from the Seventh Day Adventist Dental Clinic explains the importance of dental health to second grade students of Gregorio T. Camacho Elementary School yesterday morning.

and broccoli instead of candies and other junk food that can damage their teeth is highly recommended," she said.

Through the presentation and giving away free toothbrushes, Serna believes that they educate not only the students but also

their families as the students themselves bring home what they've learned.

"We need to help the par-

ents become aware and take a pro-active approach in caring for their children's teeth," she added.

GTC second grade teacher Patricia Deleon Guerrero said the SDA Dental Clinic has been regularly conducting outreach activity to their school.

"Learning about oral health in school through SDA's presentation would help these students realize its importance," Deleon Guerrero told *Saipan Tribune*.

Aside from the presentations, Serna disclosed that SDA Dental Clinic also provided free dental services that include check-ups and X-rays, cleaning, fillings, and extractions worth about \$7,000 to about 20 children last Feb. 5.

Serna said they will continue to provide free dental exams throughout February, particularly for children below 18 years old who fall under the low socio-economic population.

For information and appointments, call 234-6323.



# Rotary, USCG fight illiteracy in A. Samoa



Coast Guard crew members load pallets of books onto the fork lifts to put into an HC-130 Hercules aircraft at Air Station Barbers Point, Feb. 8, 2011. U.S. COAST GUARD/ANGELA HENDERSON

**HONOLULU**—Rotary Club of Kapolei and Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point members delivered books and computers to schools in American Samoa to improve literacy and education at schools in American Samoa on Feb. 9, 2011.

The Rotary Club collected more than 7,000 books to donate to schools throughout American Samoa. The Coast Guard also donated 16 computers to the Fa'asao Marist High School.

The books and computers were brought to American Samoa on Feb. 9 aboard an HC-130 Hercules aircraft. Coast Guard mem-

bers stationed at Marine Safety Detachment American Samoa have been working closely with community members to ensure successful delivery and distribution of the donated materials.

"Educating and assisting the young citizens of the territory has been a primary goal of the Coast Guard Detachment," said Lt. Trevor Parra, supervisor of Marine Safety Detachment American Samoa. "Coordinating the shipment of the books and computers was just one of the initiatives of our staff and this is truly a wonderful event that will have

lasting impacts on the students of American Samoa."

Volunteers from the Rotary Club of Pago Pago and a few businesses in American Samoa agreed to assist with transporting the books and computers to schools.

"This project is about our club's commitment to making communities stronger and better," said Natasha Clarin, director of community service for the Rotary Club of Kapolei. "We truly welcome the Coast Guard's help in our efforts to improve literacy in American Samoa."

Coordination for the project

began in July 2010 and resulted in the collection of 28,000 lbs of books. Delivery of all the books required two flights.

"The men and women of Coast Guard Air Station Barbers Point are truly privileged to partner with the many dedicated volunteers of Rotary International who serve their community here in Hawaii and American Samoa," said Capt. Anthony Vogt, commanding officer of Air Station Barbers Point. "We are humbled and honored that our efforts will have such a positive impact on the wonderful people of American Samoa." (USCG)

## Applications due for organic initiative funding

**HONOLULU, Hawaii**—Organic farmers are encouraged to apply for federal funding that will help them to implement conservation practices on their operation.

Lawrence T. Yamamoto, director for the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service in the Pacific Islands Area, said that funding is now available to provide financial assistance to National Organic Program-certified organic producers as well as producers in the process of transitioning to organic production. This assistance will be provided through the Organic Initiative of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program.

Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis, but only those received by March 4, 2011, will be considered for the initial selections. Funding selections will be made on or before April 9, 2011, exclusively from those applications received. NRCS provides all services and programs in a nondiscriminatory manner.

"This program will give growers the opportunity to address existing resource concerns such as soil and plant condition while providing the added benefit of expanding the opportunities for new organic producers," said Yamamoto.

Organic farming is one of the fastest growing segments in U.S. agriculture. The Organic Initiative gives financial and technical help for producers of all commodities to meet their conservation goals. The assistance from the NRCS helps producers plan and implement conservation practices to allow their organic operations to be environmentally sustainable.

The EQIP Organic Initiative funds may only be used to address organic-related EQIP contracts. Eligible producers include those who are currently certified organic, certification exempt, and producers who are

transitioning to organic production. EQIP primarily provides financial and technical assistance to implement conservation practices addressing soil, water, air, plant, animal, and energy resources. All practices offered through EQIP and compatible with organic operations are also offered through the organic initiative. Some of these practices include alley cropping, brush management, forest stand improvement, prescribed grazing, and pest management. To learn more and to locate your nearest USDA Service Center, visit [www.pia.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.pia.nrcs.usda.gov). (USDA)

## EPA, USCG step up efforts to protect US waters

**WASHINGTON, D.C.**—The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and U.S. Coast Guard on Friday signed a memorandum of understanding to work together to protect people's health and the environment. The MOU outlines steps the agencies will take to better coordinate efforts to prevent and enforce against illegal discharges of pollutants from vessels, such as cruise ships and oil tankers.

"Protecting America's waters is one of EPA's top priorities, and our compliance and enforcement work is critical to

meeting this challenge," said Cynthia Giles, assistant administrator for EPA's Office of Enforcement and Compliance Assurance. "By building on our partnership with the Coast Guard, we are working to improve the health of our nation's treasured rivers, bays, harbors and estuaries."

Under the MOU, USCG has agreed to incorporate components of EPA's vessel general permit program into its existing inspection protocols and procedures to help the United States address vessel pollution

in U.S. waters. The MOU creates a framework for improving EPA and USCG cooperation on data tracking, training, monitoring, enforcement and industry outreach. The agencies have also agreed to improve existing data requirements so that information on potential violations observed during inspections can be sent to EPA for evaluation and follow-up.

The vessel permit program applies to more than 61,000 commercial ships based in the U.S. and more than 8,000 foreign ships operating in U.S. wa-

ters. The vessel permit covers 26 types of discharges such as deck run-off from rain, ballast water used to stabilize ships, and wastewater from showers, sinks and laundry machines. These discharges may result in negative impacts on the environment, including the spread of invasive species from ballast water that can harm sensitive ecosystems. The vessel permit program also specifies corrective actions, self-inspections and self-monitoring, record keeping and reporting requirements. (EPA)

## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Feb. 15, 1999

### CUC weighs purchase of drilling equipment

The Commonwealth Utilities Corporation is mulling over a request from the Tinian municipality to purchase well drilling equipment that will help in finding water sources for island residents, according to its executive director. The equipment, valued between \$200,000 to \$250,000, is part of federally funded project on Tinian involving water well drilling, rehabilitation and an overall water resource study that has been terminated due to failure by town officials to meet its financial obligations. CUC chief Timothy P. Villagomez said the municipal government is facing potential lawsuit from the federal government unless they pay their debts amounting to more than \$1 million incurred since the project began in 1991.

### PSS won't have payless payday

Its serious move to bring down its deficit since early last year and aggressively pushing for austerity measures no matter how unpopular they are will save the Public School System from payless payday. In his presentation to the Board of Education, acting Fiscal and Budget Officer William Matson told members that PSS will elude the payless payday which was earlier anticipated to occur in March. "We will have enough cash to make sure that we do not have payless payday in March," he said in interview. "The other factor that we cannot control is obviously the allotment. If the government for whatever reason is not able to transfer cash then we have a problem."

Feb. 15, 2000

### 3 House committees grill Babauta

Washington Rep. Juan Babauta faced three House committees yesterday in the first ever oversight hearing conducted by the Legislature into the Office of the CNMI Resident Representative to the United States. The oversight hearing stemmed from a financial report prepared by the House Ways and Means Committee which claimed that Babauta overspent more than \$250,000 from his fiscal 1999 allotment. The hearing focused on the office's fund use as well as assessment on federal takeover and annual appropriations legislation pending before the U.S. Congress.

### EEOC seeks reinstatement of guest worker

The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission has asked the U.S. District Court to order the Saipan Grand Hotel to reinstate a Filipino gardener whose contract was not renewed due to racial discrimination. EEOC came to the rescue of Reynaldo Manila claiming that he participated in protected activities under the American Disabilities Act by assisting the Commission in its investigation into charges of discrimination filed by a fellow employee. Mr. Manila filed an EEOC case claiming Saipan Grand Hotel has retaliated against him by not renewing his employment contract because he signed a declaration in support of the EEOC charges that Alisanre Angeles has earlier filed against the establishment.

Feb. 15, 2001

### College savings program proposed

House leaders are mulling over the creation of an organized mechanism that would financially prepare local students to pursue their postsecondary education careers within the Northern Marianas. Dubbed as the Commonwealth College Savings Program of 2001, the legislation's intent is to establish a qualified higher education tuition program to enable families save for college and other expenses through college accounts. Rep. William S. Torres, author of college savings bill, has proposed for the implementation of college accounts that would enable residents of the CNMI and other states to benefit from the tax incentive provided for qualified state tuition programs under the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

### Youths' role in farming stressed

Stressing the active role the young generation will take part on agricultural education, Lt. Gov. Jesus R. Sablan endorsed Feb. 17 to 24 as National Future Farmers of America Week. In a proclamation signed Wednesday, Mr. Sablan cited the significance of FFA and agricultural education that provide a strong foundation for the youth of America. In addition, the agricultural education also promotes the future of the food, fiber, and natural resources system which plays a significant role in the future of American agriculture. Mr. Sablan also stressed FFA's continued effort to promote leadership, personal growth and career success among its members as it continuously ensure a steady supply of young professionals to meet the growing demands in the science, business and technology of agriculture.



# Nominations for 2011 Businesswoman of the Year now open

## DPW: Expect delays, hassle as Isa Drive roadwork continues

The Department of Public Works says the public should expect some level of inconveniences and delays as it works on federally funded road improvement projects along Route 31, also known as Isa Drive.

The project consists of three phases. Phase 1, under Hawaiian Rock Product, funded by the Federal Highway Aid, begins

from San Vicente/ Dandan and ends near the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. super tank in Papago. It is expected to be completed by mid-November 2011.

Phase II-A under GPPC, Inc. is funded by both FHWA and AARA transitions from the end phase I and ends after the Mobil gas station near the Kagman road intersection and is expect-

ed to be completed by the later part of 2011.

Phase II-B, which transitions from the end of phase II-A and ends near Esco's bakery/ Talafofo road will be starting before the end of 2011.

DPW said the department is working to better serve the transportation needs of the CNMI and apologizes for any inconveniences and delays this may cause the public. For more information, contact 235-9570 or 5827. (PR)

**HAGÁTÑA, Guam**—First Hawaiian Bank and *Guam Business* are seeking nominations for the 6th Annual Businesswoman of the Year Maga'Haga award. Nominees must be residents of Guam or the Northern Mariana Islands.

Nominees should meet the following criteria: a businesswoman who has made a significant difference in the industry through her organization or her business; a woman who has contributed to her community; a woman who is a leading representative of her profession or field; a woman who displays the best qualities of one in business.

The deadline for nominations is March 4. Judges will come from leading civic and women's

organizations in the Mariana Islands. The award will be announced at the Businesswoman of the Year Gala on April 30 at Hyatt Regency Guam.

The Gala is also a fundraiser for the Businesswoman of the Year scholarship program. The scholarships, open to both full-time and part-time college students, are intended to promote higher education by providing financial assistance to college students pursuing professional careers who are enrolled at either the University of Guam, Guam Community College or the Northern Marianas College.

The 2010 Businesswoman of the Year Maga'haga award recipient was Anna Wang Kao, founder and president of Geng-

his Khan Furniture Co. Past recipients include Lorraine S. Okada, executive manager of Carlsmith Ball LLP and president and owner of Managing Consulting Services; Julianne Rose Perez Duenas, physical therapist, owner and clinical director of Sports, Orthopedic and Active Rehabilitation Inc.; Christine Won Pat Baletto, general manager of Market Wholesale Distributors; Katherine Calvo Sgro, executive vice president and chairwoman of the board for Pay-Less Markets Inc.

For more information or to submit a nomination, contact Maureen Maratita, publisher, *Guam Business Magazine* at (671) 649-0883 ext. 124 or publisher@glimpesofguam.com. (PR)

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### KHS sets Senior Night with Parent Literacy

Kagman High School will be hosting its Senior Night with Parent Literacy on Friday, Feb. 18, 2011, from 5pm to 7pm. It's mandatory for all seniors and a parent or guardian to be present.

The agenda will include graduation status, portfolio requirement, and information on life after high school. Refreshments will be served!

For more information, call the KHS office at 237-3840/67 for counselor Emily Camacho. (PR)

### Invitation to CCA general membership meeting

All friends, volunteers, partners, and clients of the Commonwealth Cancer Association, and all members of the community, are invited to the CCA's general membership meeting on Wednesday, Feb. 16, 2011 at the Department of Public Health, Secretary's Conference Room at 5:30pm.

The agenda will include annual reports of the president, treasurer, and program manager, as well as election of four board members. Nominations for board members will be accepted in advance and on the floor.

To submit a board nomination, or for more information, contact CCA Program Manager Tina Sablan at 682-0050 or email cca@ccamarianas.org. (PR)

### SSHS PTSA meeting tomorrow

Saipan Southern High School will hold its PTSA meeting tomorrow, Feb. 16, from 6pm to

7pm in the Manta Café. (PR)

### SHEFA board meeting postponed

The Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance board is rescheduling its Feb. 15, 2011, regular board meeting to Feb. 17, 2011, at 9am, in the Mayor of Saipan conference room, ground floor in the Afetnas Square, Afetna, Saipan. (PR)

### Military training on FDM, Warning Area-517

The U.S. military will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla on the following dates and times:

- Feb. 14-16, from 7:30am-7:30pm
- Feb. 17, from 8am-7:30pm
- Feb. 18, from 7am-7:30pm
- Feb. 21-25, from 9am-7:30pm

The military will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on the following dates and times:

- Feb. 15, from 11:45am-5:30pm
- Feb. 16, from 11:45am-4:30pm

The public—especially fisherman, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—are advised

to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. The W-517 training will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank. (PR)

### Free workshop on tropical energy code

The Division of Energy Office will be hosting the CNMI Tropical Energy Code Workshop on Feb. 17, 2011, from 9am to 4pm at the Pacific Islands Club in San Antonio, free of charge.

The workshop will be providing contractors, engineers, architects, and stakeholders guidance relative to compliance and enforcement of the Tropical Energy Code relating to residential and commercial buildings. To reserve seats, contact the Division of Energy Office at 664-4480/1 to RSVP no later than 4:30pm today, Feb. 15, 2011.

For questions or more information regarding this workshop, contact the Division of Energy Office at 664-4480/1. (Office of the Governor)



### 24-HOUR WATER SERVICE

CUC personnel are seen in this photograph repairing the main plastic water pipe in the Achugao area. CUC customers in San Roque, Achugao, upper Tanapag areas, as well as some parts of San Vicente now have 24-hour water service after the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. completed the repair and replacement of defective pipes that were causing major leaks. Service also improved in the southern part of San Vicente, from two-hour water service to the current 12 hours.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

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FAX: (670) 234-9537

ATTORNEYS FOR Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT  
OF THE  
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN  
MARIANA ISLANDS

In the Matter of  
the Estate of  
ESTEBAN RASIAN  
NOGIS,  
Deceased.

CIVIL ACTION  
NO: 05-0113 D

#### FIFTH AMENDED NOTICE OF SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order issued by the Court in this matter on April 16, 2008, I will sell, at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendant in and to the following property: Tract No. 22703-3, containing an area of 1,484 square meters, more or less.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale. The sale will be held on **Friday, March 4, 2011**, at the hour of **1:30 pm** at **The Law Offices of Michael A. White, LLC**, Joeten Center, Susupe, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Conditions of Sale. The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the undersigned, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED, this 2nd day of February, 2011:

/s/MICHAEL A. WHITE, Auctioneer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands  
**COMMONWEALTH BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS**

## PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners Board of Directors, is hereby giving notice that the Board will be meeting on Monday and Tuesday, May 16, 2011. The meeting will be held at the Secretary's Conference Room, Commonwealth Health Center, Saipan, from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

### AGENDA

- I. Preliminary Matters –**
  1. Roll Call
- II. Call to Order**
- III. Adoption of Minutes –**
  1. December 28, 2010
- IV. Adoption of Agenda**
  1. Emmanuel LPN Program
  2. Rules and Regulations Update
  3. NNAP Update
  4. Website Update
- V. Miscellaneous**
  1. Election of Officers
- VI. Adjournment**

/s/ Aurelia G. Long, NP  
Chairperson



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

## Board of Parole

P.O. Box 502641 Saipan, MP 96950-2641  
Tel. Nos.: (670) 664-3300 - 3302 • Fax: (670) 664-3310  
E-mail: govbp@pticom.com



### PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENT

**MESSAGE:** Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy Inos, through the Board of Parole Office, and pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section II of the "Open Government Act of 1992". Notice is hereby given that a **Parole Hearing** is scheduled for **February 17, 2011, (Thursday)** beginning at **9:00 a.m.**, at the **Vicente Taman Seman Building, Department of Corrections Briefing/Training Room**, Susupe, Saipan. The following items are included in the agenda:

- I. Preliminary Matters**
  1. Call to order
  2. Roll call
  3. Presence of Quorum
- II. Consent Items**
  1. Adoption of Agenda
  2. Adoption of Parole Hearing Minutes – March 10 7 11, 2009
- III. Parole Application**

	BOP No.	Criminal Case No.
1. Santino Estreda	10-001	08-0106B
2. Bonifacio M. Camacho	10-007	08-0178
3. Jin Ming Nan	10-009	07-0064C
4. Shawn C. Appleby	10-010	96-319
5. Sayuri A. Paulis	10-012	09-01301
6. Jesus M. Babauta	11-001	09-0066
7. Loreto H. Rodriguez	11-002	07-0172B
- IV. Miscellaneous**

Others Matters
- V. Adjournment**

If you have any question, please call the Parole Office at telephone number 664-3300 or 3302

/S/ Ramon B. Camacho  
Chairman, Board of Parole

Date: 01/26/11



### BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUT

Happy 8th birthday to Vicente Atalig Camacho II, aka The Big Boss! May the good Lord give you many more years to come. God bless you and lots of love! From Dad, Mom, and the families.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



# Opinion

Hafa Adali

## Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR  
Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

AP The Associated Press

Pacific Islands News Association

### EDITORIAL

## English-only? Press 'no'

For years it was a bogeyman for those discomfited by immigration, particularly from Mexico: The United States was evolving into two nations, only one of which would speak English. If it was ever true, which is doubtful, it isn't now. A 2007 report by the Pew Foundation found that, though only 23 percent of Latino immigrants spoke English very well, the figure rose to 88 percent for their adult children and 94 percent in the third generation. Time is the ally of assimilation, not segregation.

That hasn't stopped the anxiety about non-English speakers, reflected in the applause Republican presidential candidate Tom Tancredo received during the 2008 campaign when he complained about having to "press 1 for English." A more considered but still objectionable expression of that attitude is a bill soon to be reintroduced in Congress that would declare English the official language of the United States.

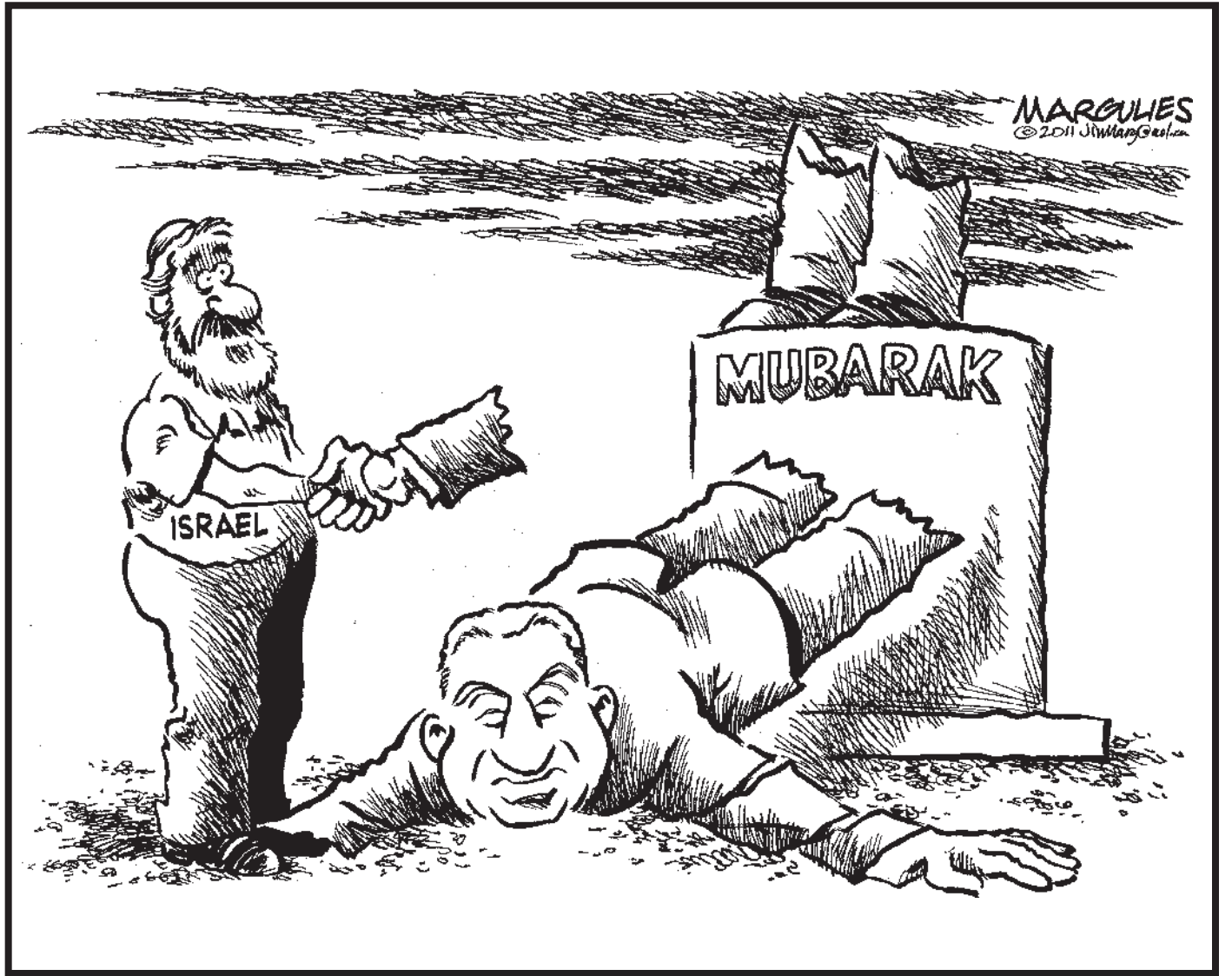
Sponsored by Rep. Steve King, R-Iowa, the legislation starts from a sound premise: that English is a unifying force in a multiethnic, multireligious democracy. But its attempt to enshrine that reality in the law is both unnecessary and harmful.

Some sections of the bill would materially disadvantage immigrants. For example, current law requires candidates for naturalization to be tested on their ability to read, write and speak English and their knowledge of civics. King's bill would require that "all citizens should be able to read and understand generally the English-language text of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution and the laws of the United States made in pursuance of the Constitution." Desirable as mastery of our founding documents may be, even many native-born citizens would struggle with their complex and archaic language.

Another potential danger to immigrants is contained in the provision requiring that "the official functions of the government of the United States shall be conducted in English." That would seem to put in doubt ballots printed in other languages under the Voting Rights Act. Prohibiting such ballots would effectively disenfranchise citizens who have a working command of English but lack the advanced skills needed to understand complicated ballot initiatives.

Important as these objections are, the most compelling argument against the bill involves symbolism. Its supporters see it as emblematic of the importance of English as a unifying force. But to many immigrants, including some who speak English fluently, the bill symbolizes something else: cultural and political dominance and the petty resentment of those who don't want to press 1 for English.

(c) 2011, Los Angeles Times



## Battle Hymn of the Chicken Papa

Amy Chua, a Harvard Law honor graduate and Yale professor, U.S.-born of Chinay parents, wrote a controversial memoir titled *The Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mama*, of her strict parenting of two daughters toward academic excellence. She contrasted the learning discipline where accomplishment is the standard measure v. students' feel-good self-esteem she identified as the bent of our current mode of education.

She claims that when a child is not doing well, uh, do not excel in school, it reflects on the parents. She then proceeds to give examples of stern disciplinary measures, coercive and overbearing that she used on her children in order for them to learn their academic and extracurricular lessons.

The complete subtitle of her book is: "This is a story about a mother, two daughters, and two dogs. This was supposed to be a story of how Chinese parents are better at raising kids than Western ones. But instead, it's about a bitter clash of cultures, a fleeting taste of glory, and how I was humbled by a thirteen-year-old."

*The Wall Street Journal* previewed the book with a provocative article titled *Why Chinese mothers are superior*. Juxtaposing the demanding Eastern parent v. the permissive Westerner, Chua extolled the virtues of strict parenting of traditional cultures, and we surmise that includes the Jewish mama, considering who she married. Her husband does claim that while the daughters were raised Jewish, they speak Mandarin. The dichotomy is not between progressives and conservatives. Chua's previous book on civilizations essayed that they flourish who honor minorities.

We were born in the Year of the Chicken in the image of a gentle pheasant, closer to the hen than to the cocky rooster, but with similar confidence bordering on arrogance. My two daughters grew up with my peripheral guidance and the hen-like tutelage of my Chicago missy lass fraulein ta lao po (English-Scot-German primal spouse); they got no delineated "do's" and "don'ts" but were enabled to be self-confident, self-reliant, and self-sufficient within limits and encouraged possibilities in their own participatory pace and style. They live response-able lives.

Children in ancient societies gain adulthood after puberty. We invented the in-between teen years as urban lifestyle transitioned from agricultural farms that needed extra hands, to the industrial factory line that had more folks on the labor line than it can employ as machines replaced brawn and brain. Académé, heretofore the realm of the elite, became universally accessible to anyone who can and who will, ending up with excess PhD taxi drivers with brawn and brainy dreamers of derivated Ponzi wealth.

Delayed adulthood (teen-dom) created a subculture, nanny'd by Hollywood, MTV, and video, deskopped and lapped on dB, Word, and Xcel, entertained by arcades and the Xbox, fed by McD-

By JAIME VERGARA

Special to the Tribune

Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune's Opinion Section.



Pizza-KFC, and sustained by the iPod, iPhone, iPad on the Internet.

America owns knick-knacks. In the last two decades, storage rental has been a growth industry. The tyranny of the commercial impulse fueled by the Texas oil culture that farm out production elsewhere is not abating soon. We program obsolescence on commercial goods to our unending consumption mania supported by unsecured phantom wealth imposed on the world through our currency and financial systems. All that is unraveling and coming home to roost.

When I turned a green teen, my Papa at grad school responded to some decisions I was awkwardly making being the man-of-the-house by default in his absence. He wrote: "if you are to be an extension of our personalities (your mother and I), then your choice will be our choice," a reversed echo of the Moabite Ruth telling her Jewish mother-in-law Naomi, "wherever thou goest, I shall go, your people shall be my people, and your god shall be my god." Our self-esteem shot up to an ump-degree upgrade! We handed the same stance of faith, hope and love to our kids.

Amy Chua's publicized excerpts tells me Amy is acting more (tongue-in-cheek?) as a woman true to herself and her own appropriated upbringing than promoting any culture-based pedagogical style. In our time, freedom is taken as being unencumbered, but not necessarily response-able. The Tiger reared her cubs! Fifty percent PhDs will be Asian this year, and they will be gainfully employed around the world!

As long as hoi polloi feels it is simply on the receiving end, recipient of centrally crafted designs (Super Bowl behavior relies on paid athletes, half-time entertainers, and we don hats and t-shirts on painted faces to do 'silly')—while the strenuous muscular demand on us to sign on a dotted line is no longer needed because plastics with our photos are now swiped—we shall remain couch potatoes with an alarming slug size obesity rate.

So Amy the Tiger Mama exited the year with a bang. She'll return in 12 years, I reckon. Meanwhile, the hop-hop-ping bunny runner promises to be lithe and blithe with learning this year. I'll remain a Chicken Dada. Cock-a-doodle doo! Or, as my indigene non-ESL neighbor's chicken late morning cackles: Kak-ka-ka-ook!



**EDITORIAL POLICY** The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com); or through our website at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com).

# ‘I’ll wait and see’: A cautionary tale about the Visa Bulletin

“I’ll wait and see.” We’ve heard this over and over and over again. It always comes from the mouth of somebody who is qualified for some U.S. visa, usually a green card, but who wants to avoid the expense and uncertainty of actually applying. Because, as the same person often says, “surely, the government will understand our situation.”

Well, no. USCIS deserves considerable credit for understanding our situation—the situation of all of us—and has been very flexible in its use of various kinds of parole to lessen the harsher effects of federalization of immigration in the CNMI. But neither USCIS, nor its parent agency, the Department of Homeland Security, has the power to authorize the wholesale issue of U.S. passports, green cards, or FAS-like status without a change in U.S. law, a change that can only come from the U.S. Congress.

In the meantime, the U.S. Congress is not exactly rushing to create ways to expand grants of citizenship, permanent residence, or FAS status to those who do not already qualify. Instead, members of the Congress are looking for ways to nullify the citizenship clause of the 14th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution—the clause that provides U.S. citizenship to children born in the U.S. and its territories and are blathering nonsense about “anchor babies.” The Dream Act, which would have provided conditional status for undocumented students who arrived in the U.S. as children, died in the last Congress; prospects for immigration reform favoring immigrants are dim. Fueled, in part, by the high rate of unemployment in the U.S.—between 9 percent and 22 percent depending on whom you believe—negative sentiment against immigrants is growing.

So we wonder if the people who say to us, “I’ll wait and see,” really do understand their own situation, never mind what the government does or does not understand. We have heard “I’ll wait and see” from people who are qualified for both family and employment based visas. While things may indeed work out the way these people hope, our own assessment is that the skies are not about to open anytime soon and rain passports, green cards, or grants of FAS status.

Those who qualify as immediate relatives of U.S. citizens may think they have the luxury of waiting to apply for green cards. After all, the immediate relative (parent, spouse or unmarried child under 21) of a U.S. citizen is entitled to an immediate green card, once the necessary applications are made and the applicant is found to be qualified and of good moral character. But what about the relatives, immediate and otherwise, who are qualified for green cards, but far from “immediately”? What about those who may qualify for employment-based visas, including green cards, for which there is a long waiting period?

Our usual advice is that if you qualify, apply as soon as you are able. The past year’s Visa Bulletins, issued by the U.S. Department of State, illustrate the dangers of waiting. The Bulletin is published each month, in advance, and states when designated visa categories will be available for processing. The March Visa Bulletin is now available at <http://tinyurl.com/6gg8j8f>. We’re going to look in particular at Categories F1 (unmarried, over 21 sons and daughters of U.S. citizens), F2A (spouses and unmarried children under 21 of green card holders) and F2B (unmarried, over 21 sons and daughters of green card holders), the categories that have shown the most volatility. (There are two other family categories in the Bulletin: F3 is for married children of U.S. citizens, and F4 is for brothers and sisters of U.S. citizens. Both traditionally have very long delays.)

The Visa Bulletin for December 2009 was consistent with Bul-

letins for some time before that: the government was processing applications with worldwide priority dates (filing dates) earlier than Jan. 22, 2004 for F1, except for Philippines (Nov. 1, 1993) and Mexico; Nov. 1, 2005 for F2A, except Mexico; and Nov. 1, 2001 for F2B, except Philippines (July 1, 1998), and Mexico.

By December 2010, however, after remarkable advances during 2010 in the F2A and F2B categories, the worldwide cutoff priority dates were Feb. 15, 2006 for F1 (April 1, 1997 for the Philippines); Aug. 1, 2010 for F2A (except Mexico); and June 1, 2005 for F2B (March 1, 2000 for the Philippines). The F2A advance was stunning—if you were a F2A from anywhere in the world except Mexico, the official waiting period was only four months between the date your sponsor filed the petition and the date your application would be processed, compared with a wait of over four years the previous December.

Over the course of 2010 we encouraged people in the F2A category in particular to file applications right away, before the Visa Bulletin lost forward momentum. We also had a few clients come to us who had received notices to proceed with their applications. Things looked pretty good, compared to prior years.

But then the January 2011 Bulletin came out: F2As slipped back nearly three years, to Jan. 1, 2008 (worse for Mexico). F1s went back to Jan. 1, 2005, with the Philippines retreating all the way to Jan. 1, 1994; and F2Bs slid backward to April 15, 2003, with the Philippines at May 15, 1999. The February Visa Bulletin remained about the same, but now the March Bulletin is out, and here are the family green card categories:

Family	All Chargeability Areas Except Those Listed	CHINA-mainland born	DOMINICAN REPUBLIC	INDIA	MEXICO	PHILIPPINES
1st	01JAN05	01JAN05	01JAN05	01JAN05	01FEB93	15DEC94
2A	01JAN07	01JAN07	01JAN07	01JAN07	01JAN06	01JAN07
2B	15APR03	15APR03	01JAN01	15APR03	15JUL92	01AUG99
3rd	01JAN01	01JAN01	01JAN01	01JAN01	01NOV92	08DEC91
4th	01JAN00	01JAN00	01JAN00	01JAN00	22JAN96	15JAN88

Overall, people in these categories are in better shape than in December 2009, but that’s not saying a great deal, especially for F2As.

And what has happened to those who got notices to proceed because their visa numbers had finally come up? Some, we believe, went far enough in their processing to continue. But we have started receiving email notices from the Department of State’s National Visa Center with the phrase “previously current” in the subject line. The official notice attached to these emails contains the following statement:

Because of a recent change in your visa classification or a change in the dates used to begin the visa application process, visa numbers are not presently available for your visa category. You will be notified when further consideration can be given to processing your application for immigration. The reason for this delay is that there are more applicants for visas than there are immigrant visa numbers available in your category under the limitation prescribed by law. For some visa categories, for example F3 or F4, this delay could be many years.

Should you wish to know which priority dates are currently being processed, you may check the State Department’s website at [http://travel.state.gov/visa/irvi\\_bulletincurrent.html](http://travel.state.gov/visa/irvi_bulletincurrent.html) or call the State Department’s Visa Office at (202) 663-1541.

You are cautioned that the beneficiary must not make any firm plans, such as disposing of property, giving up jobs, or making travel arrangements at this time. We have no way of predicting when it will be possible to progress with the immigrant visa application.

tors who pulled it off. Each one had impeccable comic timing, extremely expressive faces and body gestures and every line was perfectly executed. Not even one tiny flubbed line. This show was so well done that it crossed the line from community theater to one of professional quality. If good acting weren’t enough, each actor could really sing. This was a musical and everyone had exceptional musical talent! Where did they find these people?!

The whole show was tightly directed and one piece slid smoothly into the next helped enormously by the set design. With only four or five beautifully done flats, a variety of different backdrops were evoked.

If I had a complaint, it would be that in the first half, the musical accompaniment was a bit loud and some of the great lines were drowned out. But a larger complaint would be that it is only playing for three days and too many people will miss this exceptional work. Valentine’s Day at PIC’s Charley’s Cabaret was the last show.

This is the kind of show that replays in your head after. There was this one scene, which had a “sexual lawyer” in bed with a couple to ensure each person’s satisfaction. There was moment in my evening, much later, when, inappropriately, I find myself giggling about that scene.

I love the show. It was Perfect. Don’t change.

## IMMIGRATION FORUM

By MAYA KARA and  
BRUCE MAILMAN  
Special to the Saipan Tribune



*Maya Kara is a native of Hungary and comes to the practice of law by way of her interest in Asian history. Bruce Mailman is a native of Bakersfield, California and was a private investigator in California prior to becoming a lawyer. Both have lived and practiced law in the CNMI for over 20 years, Maya in government service and Bruce in private practice. They are married and are partners in the law firm of Mailman & Kara, LLC in Garapan, Saipan.*

You need not check with us further unless you need to report a change of address or a change in your personal situation that may affect your entitlement to an immigrant visa.

Put another way: “Don’t call us, we’ll call you. Sometime.”

Why the sharp fluctuation in priority dates? The reason is that the law allots only a certain number of visas to each category for each year. For all of F2, for example, the formula is “114,200, plus the number (if any) by which the worldwide family preference level exceeds 226,000, and any unused first preference numbers.” Of these, F2As get 77 percent (of

which 75 percent are exempt from per-country limits) and F2Bs get 23 percent.

The priority dates are assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis, which is why there is so much litigation over the Child Status Protection Act, about which we wrote in late November. The cutoffs for priority dates depend on the number of pending applications, plus changes in the worldwide family preference level. Given the long waiting periods, of course, the chance of unused F1s is not high. The system is designed in such a way that changes in cutoff dates are a given, based on the ebb and flow of applications, although the changes are not always as dramatic as in the past year.

The lesson: Wait and see, and get left further behind. If you qualify to apply now, do so, even if there is a long waiting period. You may be in position to take advantage of the next time the wait shortens. It is something you have now, not some unrealistic speculation about governmental generosity. To quote the old English proverb: “A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush.”

### Correction about E-1/E-2 spouses

In our last column we said, “E-1/E-2 spouses cannot work without qualifying for their own separate visas in categories that authorize employment.”

WRONG. E-1/E-2 spouses CAN obtain federal work authorization, as was pointed out to us by more than one source.

*The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding federalization or immigration issues to the authors by email to [lexmarianas@pticom.com](mailto:lexmarianas@pticom.com). Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune at [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com).*

## Letter to the Editor

### Mark this date on your calendar: Feb. 17, 2011

This could be the day that you, the residents of the CNMI, start to take control of your own lives. I am asking that you all come to the Multi-Purpose Center at 6pm to attend a meeting about co-oping CUC. This administration has had CUC under a declaration of emergency for far too long. Instead of getting better, the rates keep going up and up. I figure that the administration does not know how to run a utility company. So the only way out is to sell it to a foreign investor, and all the money will go off island. How can you build your economy with all the money going out and nothing coming in? However, we do have another option. We can form a co-op utility and take over the running of CUC and keep the money and jobs here. Whether you have a better idea or not, please come to the meeting and ask all your friends to come too. We need something going before the governor and the Legislature sell us out.

Frederick A. Prosser  
As Matuis, Saipan

# Love it, love it! Don’t change!

By BARBARA SHER  
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

*Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change*, the latest play put on by Friends of the Arts, is the one of the best pieces of theater I’ve seen. And I’ve seen a lot.

First of all, this off Broadway script was immensely clever. It was made up of a series of witty pieces about life and relationships that were very entertaining and spot on. There was one, for example, about a couple meeting for their first date, but being busy people and needing to save time, they decided to pretend it was their second date where they would be a little more comfortable. Then, to save more time, they decided to go right into thinking it as their third date to have that sexual tension of “will we or won’t we”. Which kind of date it was kept changing until it became the one they would have after breaking up and then having a sweet getting-back-together date.

Another clever piece was about Waiting. The wife again waiting for 32 “football moments” to end, the husband frustratingly waiting for his wife to finish shopping and not be left holding the bags and the woman insistently knocking on the bathroom door because she has to pee and is getting pissed!






But much more than just a good script was the ensemble of ac-



Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

# The Weather

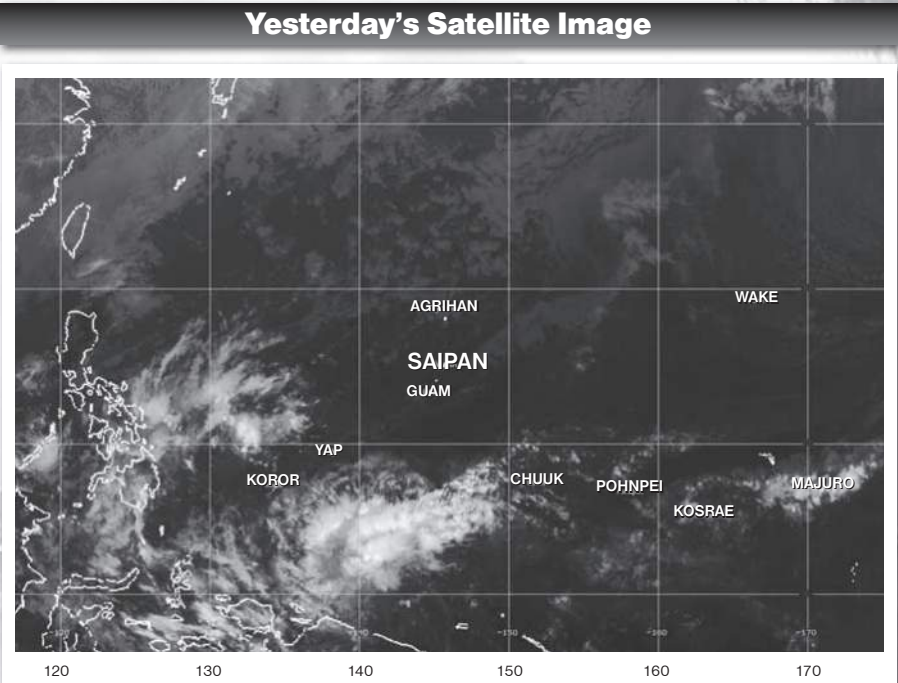
## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲85° ▼76°	▲85° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°	▲86° ▼76°

Micronesia			
Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲84 ▼77	
Palau	Rain	▲85 ▼78	
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲89 ▼76	
Chuuk	Rain	▲82 ▼78	
Pohnpei	Showers	▲88 ▼75	
Kosrae	Showers	▲85 ▼78	
Majuro	Showers	▲81 ▼76	

Around The Globe			
Auckland	Partly Cloudy	▲73 ▼65	
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲41 ▼22	
Hong Kong	Showers	▲62 ▼54	
Honolulu	Showers	▲79 ▼70	
London	Partly Cloudy	▲47 ▼41	
Los Angeles	Mostly Cloudy	▲64 ▼49	
Manila	Thundershowers	▲86 ▼74	
Melbourne	Partly Cloudy	▲80 ▼65	
Miami	Sunny	▲76 ▼59	
New York	Sunny	▲36 ▼25	
Osaka	Sunny	▲48 ▼32	
Paris	Showers	▲47 ▼37	
Pusan	Partly Cloudy	▲50 ▼36	
Rome	Showers	▲55 ▼46	
Salem	Rain	▲47 ▼38	
San Francisco	Showers	▲59 ▼54	
Seoul	Mostly Cloudy	▲38 ▼25	
Tokyo	Mostly Sunny	▲50 ▼34	
Washington, DC	Sunny	▲47 ▼34	

Tides			
Saipan Harbor			
6:25 AM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
11:21 AM	Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet
4:23 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.8 Feet
11:56 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.3 Feet



**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2011**  
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Low pressure is near 23N156E with scattered showers in an area from around the low northward beyond 25N. A trailing cold front extends southwestward from the low to just east of Saipan at 15N148E then continues as a shear line to 11N140E and eastward to beyond 10N130E. Scattered showers are between 10N and 15N west of 137E and within 100 miles of a line from 15N148E to 20N158E. A circulation just north of the equator near 2N143E is producing scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms between 2N and 7N from 136E to 149E. A surface trough across the Marshall Islands extends from 6N168E to 11N180 with scattered showers and a few thunderstorms within 125 miles of the trough.

Sunrise/Sunset			Moonrise/Moonset		
Today	6:42 AM	6:21 PM	Today	3:11 PM	3:34 AM
Wednesday	6:41 AM	6:21 PM	Wednesday	4:13 PM	4:28 AM
Thursday	6:41 AM	6:21 PM	Thursday	5:15 PM	5:19 AM
Friday	6:41 AM	6:22 PM	Friday	6:16 PM	6:09 AM
Saturday	6:40 AM	6:22 PM	Saturday	7:17 PM	6:56 AM

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF DECEMBER 16, 2010											
DEPARTURES						ARRIVALS					
SAIPAN-GUAM						GUAM-SAIPAN					
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily			C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily		
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6			C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6		
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7			C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7		
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7			C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7		
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7			C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7		
C09605	6:20pm	7:10pm	Daily			C09604	5:00pm	5:50pm	Daily		
C09599	9:30pm	10:20pm	Daily			C09606	8:00pm	8:50pm	Daily		
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)						NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN					
DL287	6:10am	8:45am	Daily			DL298	10:25am	3:05pm	Daily		
DL285	6:40am	9:15am	1, 3, 4, 5, 6			DL286	7:45pm	12:20am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 7		
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily			DL288	8:00pm	12:30am+1	Daily		
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)						OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN					
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily			OZ120	9:50am	2:20am+1	Daily		
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)						BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN					
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 4, 5, 7			OZ607	9:10pm	2:20am+1	3, 4, 6, 7		
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)						SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN					
OZ606	2:10am	6:00am	1			OZ603	9:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7		
OZ606	2:40am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7			OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX		
OZ604	3:20pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7			OZ605	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7		
OZ119	4:00am	11:25am	Daily via KIX			OZ605	8:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6		
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)						SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN					
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6			FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5		
SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)						BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN					
CA988	3:15am	6:55am	1, 5 Dec 13, 17, 20, 24 & 27 only			CA987	6:40pm	1:55am+1	4, 7 Dec 12, 16, 19, 23 & 26 only		
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)						MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN					
OZ606/701	2:10am	11:50am	1 via ICN			OZ704/603	12:10am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN		
OZ606/701	2:40am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ716/603	12:30am	2:20pm	4, 6 via ICN		
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM			DL172/286	8:05am	12:20am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 7		
DL285/173	6:40am	10:15pm	1, 3, 4, 5, 6 via NRT			C0890/9606	10:55am	8:50pm	3, 6 via GUM		
C09313/933	7:55am	9:25pm	3 via GUM			OZ702/605	1:10pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN		
C09313/893	7:55am	11:00pm	3 via GUM-Palau			OZ702/605	1:10pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
C09603/933	3:05pm	9:25pm	5 via GUM			PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:25am+1	6 via GUM		
C09603/893	3:05pm	11:00pm	5 via GUM-Palau			PR110/C09596	10:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 4, 7 via GUM		
OZ604/703	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 ICN			C0892/9596	10:25pm	7:25am+1	3 via GUM-Palau		
OZ604/715	3:20pm	11:30pm	7			C0892/9596	10:25pm	7:50am+1	5 via GUM-Palau		
C09605/933	6:20pm	9:40pm	1, 2, 4, 6, 7 via GUM			C0934/9596	11:10pm	7:50am+1	1, 2, 7 via GUM		
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM			C0934/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	4 via GUM		
SAIPAN-HONG KONG						HONG KONG-SAIPAN					
OZ606/721	2:10am	12:00pm	1 via ICN			OZ724/603	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN		
OZ606/721	2:40am	12:00pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ750/603	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN		
C09603/909	3:05pm	10:25pm	1, 5 via GUM			OZ722/605	1:30pm	1:00am+1	7 via ICN		
OZ604/723	3:20pm	10:35pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN			OZ722/605	1:30pm	1:30am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN		
OZ604/749	3:20pm	11:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN			C0910/9596	11:15pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM		
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana; CA: Air China ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The <i>Saipan Tribune</i> is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)											

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# Business

## Probe sought on Mubarak family's purported fortune

**CAIRO** (AP)—Switzerland has frozen whatever assets Hosni Mubarak and his associates may have there, and anti-corruption campaigners are demanding the same of other countries. But experts say hunting for the deposed Egyptian leader's purported hidden wealth—let alone recovering it—will be an enormous task.

Mubarak's actual worth remains a mystery. A recent claim that he and his sons Gamal and Alaa may have amassed a

fortune of up to \$70 billion—greater than that of Microsoft's Bill Gates—helped drive the protests that eventually brought him down. "Oh, Mubarak, tell us where you got 70 billion dollars!" protesters chanted in demonstrations before Egypt's ruler of 30 years was driven from office Friday, and left Cairo for a gated compound in the Red Sea resort of Sharm el-Sheikh.

Corruption was endemic in Mubarak's Egypt where 40 percent of the country's 80 million

people live on \$2 or less a day, and critics accused officials of usurping the nation's wealth. Egyptians have long complained of an unspoken policy of sweetheart deals that allowed top officials and businessmen to enrich themselves.

In recent days, watchdog groups and private lawyers have demanded that the country's chief prosecutor launch criminal investigations against the Mubaraks and some of their wealthy associates. Scores of former government officials have already been banned from travel and several, among them four former Cabinet ministers, have had their assets frozen.

How far these investigations will go ultimately depends on the political will of Egypt's leadership, said Eric Lewis, a partner with Washington-based law firm Baach, Robinson & Lewis, which specializes in international asset tracing and has done work in Kenya and Pakistan.

"What you often find is that while there's a kind of political impetus that seems to want to do it, the reality is that the real urge for transparency is more symbolic than real," Lewis said.

Far-reaching corruption probes could test the resolve of senior military officials who are running the country in the transition period. Some warn that a purge of Egypt's tycoons could make economic recovery from the political crisis more difficult.

Anti-corruption campaigners are calling for a speedy investi-

gation and are urging countries other than Switzerland to freeze assets pre-emptively. "It's going to be a very difficult task, but in the interest of public money, things need to move now," said Omnia Hussien, Egypt expert at the advocacy group Transparency International.

The Mubaraks have never publicly discussed their assets. Hosni Mubarak's official monthly salary as president, counting benefits, came to 4,750 Egyptian pounds (\$808), in 2007 and 2008, according to a Cairo think tank.

Rumors of hidden riches, such as expensive real estate in Britain, the United States and elsewhere, were fueled by the cozy ties between the Mubaraks and Egypt's business elite. The sale of state companies and public land for cheap, starting in the 1990s, were key sources of enrichment for the two sides, said Ahmed Elsayed Elnaggar, editor of Egypt's Economic Report.

"Privatization ... is the biggest corruption process in Egypt all over its history, from the period of the pharaohs, until now," he said.

In the past six months, two leading real estate companies have seen projects challenged in court over such alleged links.

In a case that captivated the country, Talaat Moustafa Group saw its \$3 billion planned Madinaty community challenged on claims it was illegally awarded to the firm without the required bidding process, at a loss of \$26

billion to the public coffers.

The country's highest administrative court upheld a ruling that the government had to re-offer the land, a decision that threatened to cast doubt on more than 100 other such projects in Egypt. Instead, a government-appointed committee re-awarded the contract, essentially on the same terms, arguing that it was in the national interest to retain the existing ownership and that TMG's work on the land had altered its value.

TMG had been headed by Hisham Talaat Moustafa, a former parliament member who was subsequently stripped of his immunity and sentenced to 15 years for ordering the murder of his Lebanese diva girlfriend.

Palm Hills Development, specializing in upscale residential compounds, faced a similar case—and its ownership structure is a case study of the ties between public officials and the business world. Relatives of the recently fired housing minister and of a transportation minister who resigned in 2009 either hold stakes in or are on the board of one of the major shareholders of Palm Hills.

Mubarak's younger son, 47-year-old Gamal, set himself up as the director of a London-based investment firm called Medinvest Associates Ltd. in 1996, but resigned in 2001. Said Kaba, a current director of Medinvest, said the company is no longer linked to Mubarak's relatives, telling the Sunday Times in London that he knew little

about the family's possible U.K. investments.

Medinvest, based in a stone-front building in London's swank Knightsbridge neighborhood, is listed as having one employee and 50,000 pounds sterling (nearly \$80,000) of issued capital—the minimum needed to get a trading certificate, operate a business and borrow. The company's profit and turnover weren't disclosed. Its net assets were valued at just over 225,000 pounds (nearly \$360,000).

Gamal Mubarak is listed as the owner of 28 Wilton Place, a six-story Georgian townhouse a few blocks from Medinvest's office.

The Cairo-based Mideast investment bank EFG-Hermes said Gamal Mubarak holds an 18 percent share in a subsidiary, EFG Hermes Private Equity. The bank said Gamal Mubarak's relationship with the company began in 1997, before he entered politics, and was made public at the time. The banks said it "does not manage funds for the Mubarak family, nor has it received—directly or indirectly—any benefits or special consideration from the Egyptian government."

Gamal Mubarak entered politics in 2000 and quickly rose to the top of his father's ruling National Democratic Party. He was fired from the party's political bureau last week in what appeared to be a failed attempt by the regime to buy time and defuse public anger.

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Japan confirms China surpassed its economy in 2010

**TOKYO** (AP)—Japan confirmed Monday that China's economy surpassed its own as the world's second largest in 2010 and said a late-year downturn was Japan's first quarterly contraction in more than a year. Japan's real GDP expanded 3.9 percent in the calendar year in the first annual growth in three years, but it wasn't enough to hold off a surging China. Japan's nominal GDP last year came to \$5.4742 trillion, less than China's total of \$5.8786 trillion, the Cabinet Office said. Gross domestic product shrunk at an annualized rate of 1.1 percent in the October-December quarter, a sharp reversal from a revised 3.3 percent expansion in the third quarter, the government said.

#### Obama official says new budget won't be pain-free

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—President Barack Obama will send Congress on Monday a \$3 trillion-plus budget for 2012 that promises \$1.1 trillion in deficit reduction over the next decade by freezing many domestic programs for five years, trimming military spending and limiting tax deductions for the wealthy. Jacob Lew, the president's budget director, said Sunday that the new spending plan for the 2012 would disprove the notion that "we can do this painlessly ... we are going to make tough choices." Republicans rejected that appraisal, castigating Obama for proposals that will boost spending in such areas as education, public works and research, and charging that Obama's cuts are not deep enough.

## Payroll deductions and retaliation: a follow-up

**Q**uestion: I've had deductions made from my pay for a piece of equipment we use in the shop. We all use it, but it quit working on my shift and I reported it. To my surprise I was told that I would have to pay for it—almost \$300! I just make minimum wage and now I have deductions until it's paid off. I read your article and I've talked with others about it. I know it's not legal, but my boss says that that's their policy. What can I do? If I report it, I'll be in trouble and maybe fired.

Before I wrote the last article on *Payroll deductions* and since, I have talked with many employees in a variety of jobs and found that it is common practice to deduct cash register shortages, breakage, lost items, unpaid tabs, calculation errors, and other company losses from employee salaries. Other employees have come to me and told me similar stories. What should I say to them?

It is not the intent of these articles to cause anyone to lose their jobs. Each employee will have to determine the risk they take in speaking up for their rights and, then, make their own decision. However, pardon me, but it is a very sad state of affairs when employees cannot let their employers know that they are in violation of federal employment laws without fearing the consequences. It does not speak well for those employers here in the Commonwealth whose concept of doing business includes ignoring and violating employment laws and making unlawful payroll deductions from their employees' paychecks.

To the employees—I can tell you what your rights are, which I did in the last article. I can tell you that action taken against you for reporting a Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), an Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) or other violation, could be an act of retaliation that is also a violation of federal employment laws. I can tell you that the best way to work out employment issues is by dis-

cussing them with your employer. I can also say that the local and federal agencies are there to enforce the employment laws and are there to protect workers. But—I can't tell you what to do in your particular case with a general article and I cannot guarantee that speaking up will not have adverse consequences.

I think, though, I should address the rest of this article to the employers—and to their human resource staff. I'm an idealist and expect and look for the best in people—even after more than 30 years of HR work. I would hope that employers who are aware of the law would comply with the law and that all human resource staff are just as concerned with the welfare of their employees as they are with the best interest of the company. I'm a believer that the welfare of the employees is in the best interest of the company. Good employer-employee communication is also in the best interest of the company, to include receiving and resolving complaints and problems. Retaliation, of course, is not in the best interest of the company.

As a brief definition, retaliation has occurred when an employee places a complaint, internally or outside the company, or otherwise participates in the complaint process, and an adverse action occurs to the employee, such as termination, demotion, bad appraisal, or similar employment actions, and the adverse action can be shown to be related to the filing of the complaint. Both the Department of Labor and the EEOC view retaliation as a serious violation as it strikes at an employee's ability to exercise the protections provided by law. Even if the initial complaint is found to be unsubstantiated, retaliation would still be a separate serious violation. With regard to labor issues, 29 USC §215 (a) (3) lists as a prohibited act "to discharge or in any other manner discriminate against any employee because such employee has filed any complaint or instituted or caused to be instituted any proceeding under or related to this chapter."

Employers must beware of inappropriate payroll deductions that

### HR MATTERS

By **FRANK GIBSON**

Special to the Saipan Tribune

*Frank L. Gibson, SPHR, GPHR, owner of HR Support, CNMI, a Saipan-based training and consulting firm, has been a resident of the CNMI for more than 15 years. One of the founding members of the CNMI Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management, he has worked both as a line-manager of human resources and in the Human Resource Office.*



violate the law and of acts of retaliation against employees that complain about the deductions. Damage, shortages, and other losses are considered by the FLSA as a "cost of doing business" that must be borne by the employer, not the employee. This does not prevent appropriate administrative or disciplinary action, or deductions within the limits allowed by law (that do not drop the pay below minimum wage). Employers should also bear in mind that the cost of a few hours of their attorney's time will probably make the shortage, loss or damage, seem insignificant.

Again, both employees and employers should be aware of their rights and obligations regarding payroll deductions. For more information, you can visit the Wage and Hour Division website at [www.wagehour.dol.gov](http://www.wagehour.dol.gov).

*The information contained in this column is intended as general information only. Readers should obtain professional advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding human resource issues to [hrsupportcnmi@gmail.com](mailto:hrsupportcnmi@gmail.com) or [editor@saipantribune.com](mailto:editor@saipantribune.com).*



# Nation

## NYC stabbing spree suspect: I'm victim of a setup

**NEW YORK (AP)**—A man accused of going on a 28-hour stabbing rampage through New York City shouted that he was the victim of a “setup” as he was led from a police station Sunday.

Maksim Gelman was awaiting arraignment in Brooklyn on charges that he hacked three people to death, then stalked the city for more than a day, attacking innocent strangers, hijacking vehicles and killing a pedestrian with a car.

A small throng of Brooklyn residents taunted Gelman from the sidewalk as he was escorted out of a police precinct for his trip to court.

The 23-year-old yelled back, cursing and yelling that it “was a setup” as he was led to a vehicle. He wore a white jumpsuit, issued after his bloody clothing was seized as evidence.

He was scheduled to be arraigned sometime in the evening, or possibly Monday morning, on charges including four counts of murder, one count of attempted murder and other offenses including robbery and assault.

Police said Gelman's terror spree ended Saturday morning after he was captured in dramatic fashion on a subway train beneath Times Square. After dodging officers by dashing across the tracks, authorities said Gelman pounded on the

door of the compartment of a moving train and demanded that the driver let him in.

Then, he turned and attacked a passenger, stabbing him in the head before two police officers who had been riding with the driver sprang to his aid. When the fracas ended, Gelman was in handcuffs and the officers were in possession of his bloody 8-inch kitchen knife, police said.

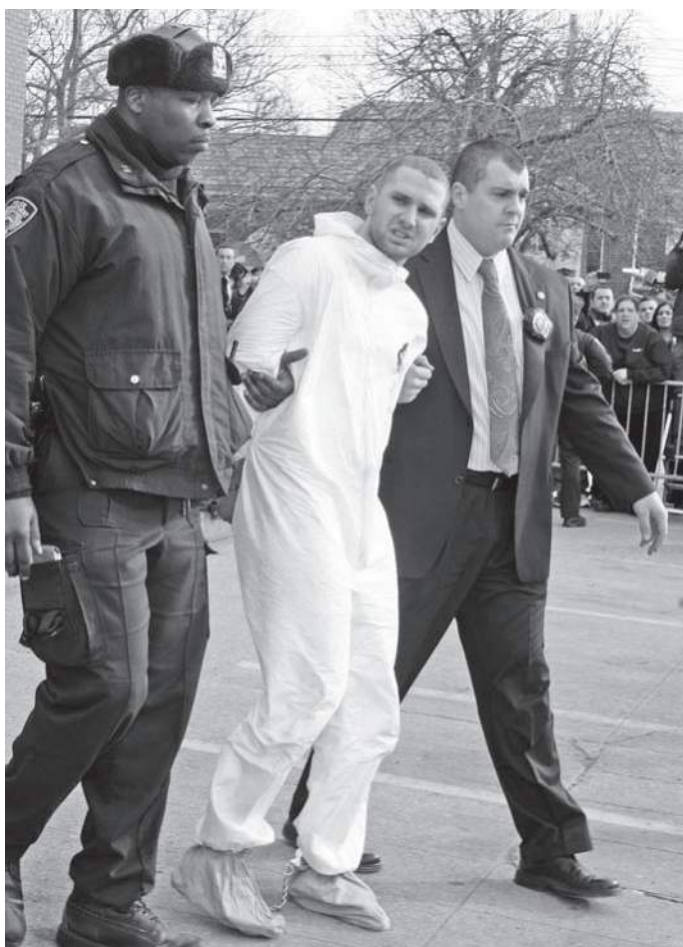
The final stabbing victim, Joseph Lozito, of Philadelphia, recounted the attack from his hospital bed Sunday for newspaper reporters.

“He's 2 or 3 feet away from me, and he pulls this knife out, looks me in the eye and says, ‘You're gonna die,’” Lozito told the New York Post.

Lozito, who stands 6-foot-2 and weighs more than 260 pounds, said he decided to go down fighting. He told the Daily News he tackled Gelman and was trying to grab his wrist as he sliced at his arm and face.

“You better hope that I die because I'm going to come kill you,” Lozito said he told the slasher.

Police said the capture ended a violent spree that began just after 5 a.m. Friday, when police say Gelman snapped during an argument over the use of his mother's Lexus sedan. His stepfather, Aleksandr Kuznetsov,



AP  
Maksim Gelman, of Brooklyn, who is accused of going on a 28-hour stabbing rampage through New York City, center, is lead by officers outside the 61st Precinct in the Brooklyn borough of New York Sunday, Feb. 13, 2011.

intervened and was stabbed to death at their apartment in Brooklyn. Police found the 54-year-old's body in his home. His

mother was uninjured.

Later that morning, Gelman turned up at the home of a 20-year-old acquaintance, Yelena

Bulchenko, and stabbed to death her mother, 56-year-old Anna Bulchenko. When Yelena arrived home at about 4 p.m., she found her mother dead in a pool of blood and called 911. But Gelman was waiting for her there, chased her outside and stabbed her 11 times, authorities said.

Police initially identified Yelena Bulchenko as Gelman's ex-girlfriend, but the nature of their relationship was unclear. Some friends said that if the two ever dated, they were unaware of it.

He sped away in his mom's car to another part of Brooklyn, where he rear-ended a Pontiac, then stabbed the driver when he confronted Gelman about the crash, police said. The driver was slashed three times in the chest but survived and was stable at an area hospital.

Gelman left the man bleeding on the street and drove off in his Pontiac, but smacked into 62-year-old pedestrian Stephen Tanenbaum, who died from his injuries. He abandoned the car later, engine running, in a private driveway, not far from a freight railroad where he was once caught spray-painting graffiti, said police Commissioner Raymond Kelly.

Police hunted him, but the fugitive disappeared until just before 1 a.m. Saturday, when police say he confronted and

stabbed a livery cab driver in Brooklyn, north of where the other incidents occurred. Shortly afterward, he approached a couple in a Nissan, stabbing the man multiple times in the hand before hijacking the car, police said. Both men survived.

Just after 8 a.m. Saturday, passengers on a southbound No. 1 train in upper Manhattan noticed that a man on the train matched photos of Gelman they had seen in newspapers.

One passenger on the train got off at West 96th Street, approached officers on the platform and told them that a man fitting Gelman's description knocked a newspaper out of her hand, saying, “Do you believe what they're writing about me?” according to police.

Gelman jumped off the train at the West 34th Street station, crossed the tracks and hopped on a northbound No. 3 train, where he sliced a passenger, the commissioner said.

Officers were in the driver's compartment of the train looking for him on the tracks, when Gelman made his way up to the driver's door and pounded on it, “claiming that he was the police,” Kelly said.

One of the officers threw open the door and wrestled Gelman to the ground, knocking the knife from his hand, Kelly said.

## That brief time out from heated discourse? No more

**WASHINGTON (AP)**—President Barack Obama? Weak, a socialist and a liar. Liberals? Monsters and a cancer. Former Vice President Dick Cheney? Called a war criminal, “murdering scum” and a draft dodger—by people in his own party.

Just a month after the Arizona shooting rampage led to bipartisan calls for toned-down political discourse, incivility suffused the year's largest gathering of conservatives. Just like at most partisan get-togethers on either end of the ideological spectrum.

The brief political time out is over—if it ever really existed.

“All right, sit down and shut up,” Cheney said after being greeted by hecklers when he made a surprise appearance at

the Conservative Political Action Conference. Supporters shouted down the insults with a “U.S.A.” chant, and a visibly annoyed Cheney brushed off the outbursts.

Such incivility didn't overwhelm the conference, which is a rite of passage for presidential contenders, right-leaning media personalities and grassroots activists. But it kept popping up throughout the three-day affair in speeches by names big and not so big.

That's not to say liberals would have been any more civil at their own event, and the tone at the conservative gathering was arguably no different from what it's been in the past. After all, it's what these events are for.

On both the left and the right,

hard-core ideologues are the ones who attend such conferences, and agendas are set with that audience in mind. Verbal bomb-throwing is the norm from speakers who serve up political red meat to highly partisan crowds that devour it.

This weekend's conference was a sign of a return to normalcy in the wake of the shootings that wounded Rep. Gabrielle Giffords, D-Ariz., and killed six in January. That attack touched off a national debate about overheated political rhetoric. Politicians of all stripes, Obama included, pleaded for a more civil discourse.

The GOP's top elected leaders—House Speaker John Boehner of Ohio and Senate Minority Leader Mitch McCon-

nell of Kentucky—set a respectful tone in their speeches to the conservative gathering.

So did many of the Republicans likely to run for president.

Indiana Gov. Mitch Daniels, who referred to Obama only once, confronted the issue of “the venomous, petty, often ad hominem political discourse of the day.” He urged conservatives to be more thoughtful in their rhetoric.

Yet even as he invoked Ronald Reagan's admonishment, “Remember, we have no enemies, only opponents,” Daniels slapped at Democrats: “Our opponents are better at nastiness than we will ever be. It comes naturally.” He also told conservatives to embrace a nicer approach—for political gain.

## Couple gets married on a real love train in Philly

**PHILADELPHIA (AP)**—When people ask Krisy Plourde and Tom Golden where they got married, their answer will be a rough estimate: somewhere around 46th Street.

Plourde and Golden said their vows aboard an elevated train on Sunday, just ahead of Valentine's Day.

The nuptials, performed by Mayor Michael Nutter, took place on a special train from

City Hall to west Philadelphia. While Plourde and Golden, both 28, were being wed in the first car, about 360 other riders were getting a narrated tour of the “Love Letter” series of rooftop murals that parallel the tracks.

It was perhaps the most memorable Love Train in the city since the early 1970s, when Philadelphia International Records released the O'Jays' hit song by the same name.

Operated by the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, the Market-Frankford line train was decorated Sunday with red hearts on the outside and white garlands on the inside. It was a sharp departure from the couple's original plan to wed on an ocean liner.

“People get married on cruises all the time,” Golden, an engineer, said after the ceremony. “Who gets married by

the mayor of Philadelphia on the SEPTA EI?”

The Love Train was sponsored by the city's Mural Arts Program to promote a mammoth project by artist Steve Powers. Mixing graphics with funky, bright lettering, Powers painted on upper-story row house walls about 50 larger-than-life love notes, such as “Forever begins when you say yes” and “Holler and hear my heartbeat.”

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Mob arrests raise issues of crime, port security

**NEWARK, N.J. (AP)**—Law enforcement officials have called the stretch between Port Newark and Newark Liberty International Airport the most dangerous two miles in America. A series of recent court cases shows that despite increased attention on airport security since the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, another security concern—a homegrown one—persists at the ports: organized crime. Experts differ on what mob infiltration of the ports means in a post-9/11 security climate, or how large and influential organized crime syndicates remain after decades of law enforcement efforts to root them out.

#### Fire on Washington reservation destroys 18 homes

**WHITE SWAN, Wash. (AP)**—Dozens of firefighters battled a blaze fueled by strong winds on Washington's Yakama Indian Reservation that destroyed 18 homes, officials said. The fire apparently started in one house in the early Saturday afternoon and then spread in the town of White Swan, bolstered by 40 mph winds. The blaze raged for most of the day. Early Sunday, Yakima County District 5 Fire Chief Brian Vogel told The Associated Press that the wild land fires had been controlled, but thousands of logs on log decks at one of the mills were still burning. They're expected to burn for another 24 hours, the Yakima Herald-Republic reported Sunday.

#### Police: Hostage-taker at NC bank was unarmed

**CARY, N.C. (AP)**—A man who told hostages and police he had a gun was actually unarmed during a three-hour standoff that ended with officers shooting and killing him outside a North Carolina bank, police said Sunday. Cary Police Chief Pat Bazemore said 19-year-old Devon Mitchell concealed an object inside a red toboggan hat and presented it as a gun, but that he didn't have a firearm. Mitchell had as many as seven hostages, though most were released during the course of the standoff on Thursday. “Why Devon set all of this in motion, why he wanted all of us to believe that he had a weapon and was prepared to kill with it are questions that we will never have the answers to,” Bazemore said. “But it is clear that that's what Devon wanted us to believe.”



# Asia

## Pakistan: US shooting case won't derail talks

**ISLAMABAD** (AP)—Pakistan's standoff with Washington over a jailed U.S. Embassy worker will not thwart talks between the two countries and Afghanistan, a Pakistani government spokesman said Sunday.

Tensions between the U.S. and Pakistan have been rising over the detention of American Raymond Allen Davis for killing two Pakistani men he says were trying to rob him.

In an apparent step to show its displeasure, the United States on Saturday postponed a meeting with Pakistani and Afghan officials to discuss the war in Afghanistan. Pakistan prizes such gatherings as a way to assert influence in Afghanistan.

The meeting was to have taken place next week. The U.S. did not directly cite Davis' continued detention as the reason, but U.S. diplomats have said the talks could become a casualty of the dispute.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Abdul Basit said he is confident the three-way talks will continue.

"The trilateral talks will be rescheduled in due course of time," Basit said. "It is important the trilateral process continues. We hope whenever held, (talks) will yield maximum results for peace and stability."

He declined comment on what the escalating diplomatic spat means for the Davis case or for relations with the United States.

State Department spokesman P.J. Crowley said the U.S. hopes to reschedule the meeting soon.

Police in Pakistan have accused Davis of "cold-blooded murder." Davis claims he shot the men in self-defense when they tried to rob him at gunpoint in the eastern city of Lahore. The



Supporters of Pakistani religious party Jamat-e-Islami raise their hands during a demonstration against Raymond Allen Davis, a U.S. consulate employee suspected in a shooting, in Lahore, Pakistan, Sunday, Feb. 13, 2011.

AP

U.S. insists he has diplomatic immunity from prosecution.

Pakistani officials, fearful of a backlash in a population where anti-American fervor is widespread, have referred the case to the courts. Police are pushing for murder charges against the 36-year-old Davis, a former U.S. Army Special Forces soldier.

Shah Mahmood Qureshi, who was foreign minister until a Cabinet reshuffle three days ago, said that his stance had been that Davis did not qualify for diplomatic immunity. It was not clear whether Qureshi's dismissal was related to his stance. A new foreign minister has not been named.

Pakistan's foreign secretary—the current top official in the ministry—has said that any U.S. pressure on Islamabad to release Davis will be "counter-productive."

Pakistan is considered a key to U.S. success in neighboring Afghanistan, making it difficult for Washington to sever ties. Pakistan relies on U.S. aid and protection, but the government seems paralyzed in the face of public outrage over the shootings.

On Sunday, the Pakistani Taliban threatened to attack any government official involved in Davis' eventual release.

"Whether he is a judge, police, lawyer, army, police maker or a politician, we will target him. We will kill him," spokesman Ahsanullah Ahsan told the AP by phone.

## Pakistan army turns to war movies to counter jihad

**ISLAMABAD, Pakistan** (AP)—After a night of fighting off a Taliban attack on his remote outpost, the Pakistani soldier lies wounded, with one of the attackers crawling on top of him. He grabs the assailant by the neck, but cannot prevent him from firing seven shots into his chest.

The death of the soldier is the climax of "Glorious Resolve," one of several slickly produced, action-packed films produced by the army to rally Pakistanis against Islamist extremists and counter their propaganda videos.

Aired on private and public TV stations, the films are described as re-enactments of real clashes in the military campaign in northwest Pakistan, which began in earnest in 2009.

"The basic purpose is to highlight the true stories of those valiant heroes of Pakistan," said Brigadier Azmat Ali, executive producer of the series. "And also to let the people know what kind of atrocities they had come across and ultimately how we are guarding against further extremism that is coming on to us."

Although more than 2,000

soldiers have been killed in the fighting in the South Waziristan tribal region, some critics say the army is still not doing enough. However, that campaign and others has been praised by the United States, which is fighting a related insurgency just across the frontier in Afghanistan.

The 20-minute film begins with an insurgent giving a pep talk to his men around a campfire as they prepare to attack the outpost.

He speaks in Urdu, using phrases similar to those on the militants' videos: "This unholy

army has taken over our land, has made checkpoints on our roads and is frisking our women. 'It fights for the white man, it fights for dollars. We don't want peace, we need the blessing of Allah.'"

The attack is then shown in blistering close-up.

The insurgents fire rockets, then slowly advance. Blood from a slain insurgent splatters the camera lens.

"We are extremely outnumbered," a Pakistani officer shouts into a radio. "God willing we will not let anybody get away. We will make you proud, sir."

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### Ex-Philippine military chief who shot self buried

**MANILA, Philippines** (AP)—A former Philippine military chief who committed suicide after being accused in a corruption scandal has been buried at a heroes' cemetery. Military pallbearers brought the flag-draped coffin of Ret. Gen. Angelo Reyes, who also served as defense chief, to his tomb on Sunday at the National Heroes' Cemetery as his widow and sons wept and dropped petals on his casket. Reyes, 65, shot himself in the chest with a pistol at his mother's grave Tuesday after he and two other ex military chiefs of staff were accused of pocketing millions of dollars in payoffs. Reyes had denied the accusation. Sen. Franklin Drilon said senators will continue their investigation and may invite Reyes's widow to testify after a period of mourning.

#### 2 Filipino soldiers, 5 militants killed in clash

**ZAMBOANGA, Philippines** (AP)—Army troops captured a jungle encampment of al-Qaida-linked Abu Sayyaf gunmen and killed five militants in a gunbattle that also left two soldiers dead in the southern Philippines, officials said Sunday. Among the militants reportedly killed in Saturday's clash near mountainous Sumisip

town on Basilan island was Juhaiber Alamsirul, a close aide of Abu Sayyaf commander Nurhassan Jamiri, who has been blamed for beheadings and kidnappings, regional military spokesman Lt. Col. Randolph Cabangbang said. Two army scout rangers were killed and five others were wounded in the three-hour clash involving about 30 militants near the village of Baiwas. Troops captured an Abu Sayyaf encampment, where they found bunkers, a hand-held radio and rebel belongings, Cabangbang said.

#### Malaysian beats tiger away to save wounded husband

**KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia** (AP)—A woman in a jungle region of northern Malaysia rescued her husband from a tiger attack by clubbing the beast on its head with a large wooden soup ladle and chasing it away, police said Monday. The tiger pounced on Tambun Gedi while he was hunting squirrels Saturday near his home in a jungle settlement of the Jahai tribe, a police official in Malaysia's Perak state said on condition of anonymity because he was not authorized to make public statements. Tambun's 55-year-old wife, Han Besau, rushed out when she heard his screams and struck the tiger on its head with a kitchen ladle, causing it to flee immediately, the official said.

## NATO: 740 trainers still needed for Afghan forces

**KABUL, Afghanistan** (AP)—More nations are pledging support, yet NATO still faces a shortage of 740 trainers needed to get Afghan soldiers and policemen ready to take the lead in securing their nation, the coalition's top training official says.

Needed most are 290 police trainers, including those to work in new training centers opening in Afghanistan this year, U.S. Lt. Gen. William Caldwell, the commander of NATO's training mission, told The Associated Press in an interview Saturday.

Afghan President Hamid Karzai wants his nation's police and army to take the lead in protecting and defending their homeland by 2014, a deadline that will be reached only if the training effort—already on a fast track—gets even more support from NATO and other nations. Caldwell said the coalition wants to have the additional 740 trainers in place by this summer.

"The NATO secretary-general has said, 'No trainers, no transition,'" Caldwell said. "He is exactly right. If you don't have sufficient numbers of trainers, then we can't set the conditions for transition in 2014."

The Afghan security force added more than 70,000 police and soldiers last year and now is 270,000-strong. It is well on its way to meeting Karzai's goal of reaching 305,600 by the end of October. Karzai is expected to announce his next target for growth in coming weeks.

Besides filling training slots, however, the training mission faces challenges. Corruption within the ranks has been eased, but not eliminated, by raising salaries, issuing paychecks electronically and awarding promotions based on performance, not cronyism or favoritism. Increasing numbers of policemen and soldiers have been enrolled in literacy courses, but the inability to read and write

continues to stifle efforts to professionalize the force.

The Afghan army and police still need thousands more officers trained. And there still is a critical shortage of trainers who can teach specific skills, such as how to manage military hospitals and clinics or fly and maintain Mi-17 aircraft.

At a ceremony Saturday at Camp Eggers in Kabul, Latvia and Lithuania together pledged up to 23 trainers to mentor the Afghan Air Force in southern Afghanistan. Their commitment raised to 32, the number of nations involved in the training mission.

"Down in Kandahar the Afghan Air Force has five Mi-17 helicopters and we desperately needed an air-mentoring team to work with them to help them continue to grow and professionalize the air force down there so that by December 2014 they are clearly in the lead," Caldwell said.



## World

## Egypt's military rulers dissolve parliament

CAIRO (AP)—Egypt's military rulers took sweeping action to dismantle the autocratic legacy of former President Hosni Mubarak on Sunday, dissolving parliament, suspending the constitution and promising elections in moves cautiously welcomed by pro-democracy protesters.

They also met with representatives of the broad-based youth movement that brought down the government after an 18-day uprising that transfixed the world.

The caretaker government, backed by the military, said restoring security was a top priority even as labor unrest reflected one of the many challenges of steering the Arab world's biggest nation toward stability and democracy.

On Sunday, prominent activist Wael Ghonim posted on a Facebook page he manages notes from a meeting between members of the military council and youth representatives, which he described as encouraging.

The military defended the caretaker government, stocked with Mubarak loyalists, as necessary for now in the interests of stability but pledged to soon change it, said Ghonim and another protester, Amr Salama, in the statement.

"They said they will go after corrupt people no matter what their position current or previous," the statement added. Amendments to the much-reviled constitution will be prepared by an independent committee over the next 10 days and then presented for approval in a popular referendum to be held in two months, they said.

The military also encouraged the youth to consider forming political parties—something very difficult to do under the old system—and pledged to meet with them regularly.

"We felt a sincere desire to protect the gains of the revolution and an unprecedented respect for the right of young Egyptians to express their opinions," Ghonim said.

Even amid the efforts to build a new system, Egypt's upheaval has splintered into a host of smaller grievances, the inevitable outcome of emboldened citizens feeling free to speak up, most for the first time.

They even included about 2,000 police, widely hated for brutality and corruption under Mubarak, who marched to the Interior Ministry to demand better pay and conditions. They passed through the protest camp at Tahrir Square, where demonstrators hurled insults, calling them "pigs" and "dogs."

Egypt's state news agency announced banks would be closed Monday due to strikes and again Tuesday for a public holiday.



## Standing down

After 17 days of protests, Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak has stepped down, ending the longest tenure since King Farouk was ousted in 1952.

## Protesters' demands

- Amend constitution to allow for free and fair elections
- Lift 1981 emergency law that bans public assembly, lets police arrest and hold people indefinitely
- Release the thousands held in administrative detention without charge

## Constitutional conundrum

- New president must be elected within 60 days; interim president can't amend the constitution
- Unless changes are made, the election would be held under the restrictive rules Mubarak introduced in 2007

## A foggy road ahead

- Mubarak turned over power to the military, and it is unclear if they will move forward in implementing the protesters' demands
- Also unclear is whether Vice President Omar Suleiman will help run the country

## A movement that toppled a government

Jan. 25, 2011 Protests begin as thousands gather to demand an end to Mubarak's tenure

Jan. 27 Reform campaigner Mohamed ElBaradei arrives in Cairo; government shuts down Internet access, blocks Twitter

Jan. 28 Protests mount and turn into riots, overwhelming police; Mubarak says he will appoint a new cabinet

Jan. 29 Suleiman named vice president; army called in

Jan. 30 U.S. President Barack Obama urges an "orderly transition" to democracy; ElBaradei joins protests

Jan. 31 Mubarak swears in new cabinet; army pledges not to use force against protesters

Feb. 1 Mubarak says he will step down after September elections; protesters call for him to step down now

Feb. 2 Violence breaks out between protesters and Mubarak supporters, many thought to be police

Feb. 3 Mubarak says he can't step down now for fear of Egypt's falling into chaos; protesters retake Tahrir Square; Mubarak supporters attack crowd, foreign journalists

Feb. 5 Leadership of Egypt's ruling party, including Mubarak's son Gamal, resigns

Feb. 6 Opposition groups hold talks with government, set up committee to study constitutional issues

Feb. 8 Suleiman says government has a timetable for peaceful transfer of power; previously jailed online activist Wael Ghonim addresses crowd, saying "We won't give up"

Feb. 9 Labor strikes, worker protests re-energize movement; protesters demand immediate dissolution of the assembly (parliament)

Feb. 10 Military suggests Mubarak will go; defying protesters' expectations, Mubarak says he will not

Feb. 11 Mubarak steps down

Source: McClatchy Washington Bureau, BBC, Reuters, MCT Photo Service, Google, New York Times, Egyptian Initiative for Personal Rights, NPR, ESRI

Graphic: Melina Yingling, Judy Treible, Lee Hulteng, Pat Carr

Dozens of employees protested against alleged corruption at the state television building, which

broadcast pro-Mubarak messages during the massive demonstrations against his rule.

The caretaker government met for the first time, and employees removed a huge frame

## Yemeni police crack down on anti-government crowds

SANAA, Yemen (AP)—Yemeni police armed with sticks and daggers on Sunday beat back thousands of protesters marching through the capital in a third straight day of demonstrations calling for political reforms and the resignation of the country's U.S.-allied president. The protests have mushroomed since crowds gathered Friday to celebrate the ouster of Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak after an 18-day revolt fueled by similar grievances. Yemen is one of several countries in the Middle East feeling the aftershocks of pro-reform uprisings in Egypt and Tunisia.

Police used truncheons to stop protesters, many of them university students, from reaching the capital's central Hada

Square. Witnesses said plainclothes policemen wielding daggers and sticks also joined security forces in driving the protesters back.

The Ministry of Interior called on people not to heed "suspicious calls for chaos" and to avoid rallies which "obstruct the course of daily life."

Yemen's president Ali Abdullah Saleh also postponed a trip to Washington scheduled for next month due to the "circumstances in the country," the state news agency reported.

Much is at stake in Yemen—a deeply troubled nation strategically located at the mouth of the Red Sea and next door to the world's largest oil reserves. Saleh's weak government is already under pressure from

a southern separatist movement and disaffected tribesmen around the country.

The U.S., however, is most worried about an al-Qaida offshoot that has taken root in Yemen's mountains in the last few years and used it as a haven to plot attacks beyond the country's borders, including the failed attempt to blow up a U.S.-bound airliner in December 2009 by an attacker with a bomb sewn into his underwear.

Saleh—in power for three decades—is quietly cooperating with the U.S. in efforts to battle the al-Qaida franchise, but his government exercises limited control in the tribal areas beyond the capital. The U.S. is funneling him military aid and training.

The country's security forces,

photograph of Mubarak from the meeting room before they convened.

The crowds in the protest encampment that became a symbol of defiance against the government thinned out Sunday—the first working day since the regime fell. Traffic flowed through downtown area for the first time in weeks. Troops cleared most of the makeshift tents and scuffled with holdout activists.

The protesters have been pressing the ruling military council, led by Defense Minister Hussein Tantawi, to immediately move forward with the transition by appointing a presidential council, dissolving parliament and releasing political prisoners. Thousands have remained in Tahrir Square and some want to keep up the pressure for immediate steps, including repeal of repressive emergency laws that give police broad power.

As Egypt embarked on its new path—one of great hope but also deep uncertainty—the impact of its historic revolt and an earlier uprising in Tunisia was evident in a region where democratic reform has made few inroads.

Yemeni police clashed Sunday with protesters seeking the ouster of the U.S.-backed president, and opposition groups planned a rally in Bahrain on Monday. Demonstrators have also pushed for change in Jordan and Algeria, inspired by the popular revolt centered in downtown Cairo.

The 18-member Supreme Council of the Armed Forces allayed some concerns by dismissing the legislature, packed with Mubarak loyalists, and sidelining the constitution, used by Mubarak to buttress his rule. Activists said they would closely watch the military to ensure it does not abuse its unchecked power—something that is clearly starting to make some uneasy.

## New pro-reform rally in Algeria called for Feb. 19

ALGIERS, Algeria (AP)—The organizers of a pro-reform protest that brought thousands of Algerians onto the streets of the capital over the weekend called Sunday for another rally next week.

The Coordination for Democratic Change in Algeria—an umbrella group for human rights activists, unionists, lawyers and others—has called for the Feb. 19 demonstrations to take place throughout the country.

Saturday's rally—which came a day after an uprising in Egypt toppled that country's autocratic ruler—took place only in the capital, Algiers.

Organizers said around 10,000 took part in the gathering, though officials put turnout at 1,500. Many protesters held signs reading "Bouteflika out," in reference to President Abdelaziz Bouteflika, in power in the impoverished but gas-rich North African nation since 1999.

Under the country's long-standing state of emergency, public protests are banned in Algiers, and an estimated 26,000 riot police set up barriers throughout the city in a failed bid to quash Saturday's gathering, organizers said.

A human rights campaigner said police briefly detained around 400 people. No injuries were reported.

The hours-long rally dissolved peacefully Saturday afternoon, and Sunday was calm in the capital, though youth clashed with riot police in the eastern coastal city of Annaba.

The skirmish broke out after thousands of people responded Sunday to an ad in the local paper announcing job vacancies at Annaba's city hall. When it turned out no jobs were on offer, members of the angry mob started throwing stones at police.

Annaba is 375 miles (600 kilometers) east of Algiers, near the border with Tunisia.

Tensions have been high in Algeria since a spate of riots over high food prices early last month that left three dead, and recent uprisings in Tunisia and Egypt that deposed those country's leaders.

The success of those uprisings is fueling activists' hope for change in Algeria, although many in this conflict-scarred nation of 35 million people fear any prospect of a return to violence. The country lived through a brutal Islamist insurgency in the 1990s that left an estimated 200,000 people dead.



## Focus

# A look inside America's poorest county

By NOMAAN MERCHANT  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**ZIEBACH COUNTY, S.D. (AP)**—In the barren grasslands of Ziebach County, there's almost nothing harder to find in winter than a job. This is America's poorest county, where more than 60 percent of people live at or below the poverty line.

At a time when the weak economy is squeezing communities across the nation, recently released census figures show that nowhere are the numbers as bad as here—a county with 2,500 residents, most of them Cheyenne River Sioux Indians living on a reservation.

In the coldest months of the year, when seasonal construction work disappears and the South Dakota prairie freezes, unemployment among the Sioux can hit 90 percent.

Poverty has loomed over this land for generations. Repeated attempts to create jobs have run into stubborn obstacles: the isolated location, the area's crumbling infrastructure, a poorly trained population and a tribe that struggles to work with businesses or attract investors.

Now the tribe—joined by a few entrepreneurs, a development group and a nonprofit—is renewing efforts to create jobs and encourage a downtrodden population to start its own businesses.

"Many, many people make these grand generalizations about our communities and poverty and 'Why don't people just do something, and how come they can't?'" said Eileen Briggs, executive director of Tribal Ventures, a development group started by the tribe. "It's much more complicated than that."

The Cheyenne River Indian Reservation, created in 1889, consists almost entirely of agricultural land in Ziebach and neighboring Dewey County. It has no casino and no oil reserves or available natural resources.

Most towns in Ziebach County are just clusters of homes between cattle ranches. Families live in dilapidated houses or run-down trailers. Multicolored patches of siding show where repairs were made as cheaply as possible.

Families fortunate enough to have leases to tribal land can make money by raising cattle. Opportunities are scarce for almost everyone else.

The few people who have jobs usually have to drive up to 80 miles to tribal headquarters. The nearest major population centers are Rapid City and Bismarck, each a trip of 150 miles or more.

Basic services can be vulnerable. The tribe's primary health clinic doesn't have a CT scanner or a maternity ward. An ice



In this Jan. 18, 2011, photo Stephanie Davidson and her husband Gerald Davidson look over fishing tackle inventory at their store in Eagle Butte, S.D. The Davidsons started a plumbing-and-heating business in 2000 that was hit hard by the recession and the limits of the reservation economy. They've laid off employees and filled empty space in their building by adding a bait shop and then a café.

storm last year knocked out power and water in places for weeks. And in winter, the gravel roads that connect much of the reservation can become impassable with snow and ice.

Nearly six decades after the reservation was created, the federal government began building a dam on the Missouri River, but the project caused flooding that washed away more than 100,000 acres of Indian land. After the flooding, the small town of Eagle Butte became home to the tribal headquarters and the center of the reservation's economy.

"There are things that have happened to us over many, many generations that you just can't fix in three or four years," said Kevin Keckler, the tribe's chairman. "We were put here by the government, and we had a little piece of land and basically told to succeed here."

But prosperity never came. The county has been at or near the top of the poverty rankings for at least a decade. In 2009, the census defined poverty as a single person making less than \$11,000 a year or a family of four making less than \$22,000 a year.

Eagle Butte has few businesses and the handful that do

exist struggle to stay afloat. The town has just one major grocery store, the Lakota Thrifty Mart, which is owned by the tribe. There's also a Dairy Queen, a Taco John's and a handful of small cafés. There's no bowling alley, no movie theatre.

But a few entrepreneurs are trying to break the cycle of failure, with mixed results.

Stephanie Davidson and her husband, Gerald, started a plumbing-and-heating business in 2000 with a single pickup truck. Eventually, D&D Plumbing started to grow, and they hired several employees.

But the reservation economy, which was never strong, has been hit hard by the economic slump. Many customers don't have the money to pay for work upfront, and the Davidsons have struggled to get contracts in new construction, such as a nearly \$85 million federal hospital being built to replace the aging clinic.

They've laid off employees and filled empty space in their building by adding a bait shop and then a deli. Nothing has worked.

"People think you're a pillar of the community because you have a business, and that part of it is good," Stephanie Davidson

said. "We don't feel that way right now because we're having such a tough time."

Nicky White Eyes, who owns a flower shop on Main Street, says there are days when she doesn't sell a single flower. Most of her business comes from families who get help from the tribe to buy flowers for a relative's funeral.

"We're getting by with nothing extra," said White Eyes, who said she hasn't taken any salary in the months since she quit another job to run the shop full-time. "But no, I have too much heart in it to let it go quite yet."

The nonprofit Four Bands Community Fund has invested in both businesses and people in Eagle Butte. The group teaches residents basic financial skills—how to open a checking account, how to save money on a budget and how to develop credit.

"You have the most complicated little world here," said Tanya Fiddler, Four Bands' executive director.

Without a viable private sector, federal money permeates every part of life here. The federal government pays for the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the Bureau of Indian Education and the Indian Health Service, three of the reservation's largest employers. Businesses rely on the federal money that comes into the reservation.

Federal stimulus dollars are paying for the new hospital, which will create about 150 permanent jobs when it opens this year. Other federal contracts bring sporadic jobs, too.

One tribal success story is Lakota Technologies, which has attracted call-center and data-processing work and trained hundreds of young people since it started more than a decade ago. The company now employs a handful of tribal members on a State Department subcontract, even though most of its cubicles remain empty.

But other businesses owned

by the tribe have run into trouble. Last year, a buffalo-meat processing company was sued by a rancher in federal court. The lawsuit accused the company, Pte Hca Ka Inc., of not delivering on contracts. A federal judge ruled against Pte Hca Ka for \$1.1 million when it did not respond to the lawsuit.

Keckler, the newly elected tribal chairman and a former business owner, has pledged to try to fix the problems. He said previous officials have rejected overtures from outside investors because they feared the loss of tribal control or the risk of losing their positions.

"It's difficult for us to get people to come here and have faith in us as a government," he said. "We just had a new election, and there was discussion about, 'Oh, people want to give away things.' Those are kind of the issues that we have."

Still, there are small reasons to hope.

Later this year, the tribe will start to receive payments from a \$290 million settlement with Congress related to the farmland that was lost to the Missouri River flooding. The tribe will receive annual interest on the settlement money starting this fall. This year's payment could be as much as \$75 million, according to one tribal estimate. A Department of Treasury spokeswoman says the final amount hasn't been determined yet.

That money can be used for infrastructure improvements, economic development and education.

Raymond Uses The Knife, a rancher and tribal councilman, wants the reservation to be "accessible for other companies to come in and invest their money right here."

"We have to attract business. Regardless of how much money we have, we can't set up our own businesses," he said. "We also have to realize that we're all not experts."

Meanwhile, groups like Tribal Ventures and Four Bands continue to look for ways to bring in jobs and help those who are fighting the decades-old obstacles here.

"You can have all the heart you want, but you have to have actual cash and resources," said Briggs, of Tribal Ventures. "All those things play a part in our being able to basically use our greatest asset, which is our people."



In this Jan. 18, 2011, photo Nicky White Eyes arranges flowers in her flower shop in Eagle Butte, S.D. Nicky says there are days when she doesn't sell a single flower. Most of her business comes from families who get help from the Cheyenne River Sioux tribe to buy flowers for a relative's funeral.



# Overdrive

## Tire life varies for different cars, drivers

By BRAD BERGHOLDT  
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

**QUESTION: How long should tires last? I've managed to wear mine out in only 32,000 miles and thought they should last a lot longer.**—Adriane Robson

**ANSWER:** Good question! Tire tread life varies greatly depending on the type of tire, operator driving style, road conditions, how well they're inflated, frequency of wheel rotation, and proper wheel alignment. Sticky high performance tires don't last nearly as long as those with a more utilitarian purpose.

When comparing new tires for purchase, look for the uniform tire quality grade—a combination of numbers and letters known as UTQG—on the tire's printed label or sidewall. The higher the number, the longer the tread is supposed to last. In theory a 400-rated tire should last twice as long as a 200-rated tire. Keep in mind the government allows the tires companies to self-test their tires and there can be some variations in how the test results are derived. What this means is that the UTQC tread wear number is a good shopping tool to compare various tires within one manufac-

turer's family of tires, but isn't as reliable when comparing tires of differing brands.

Driving style can make a noticeable difference in tire life. A driver with conservative driving habits—gentle stops and starts, gentle on turns—might see a 10 percent to 30 percent improvement in tire life over another driver who enjoys wringing out the car. Road conditions matter as well. Rough or winding roads or those with countless stop-lights are harder on tires than smooth and straight freeways at reasonable speed.

Proper inflation is hugely important for safe vehicle handling, braking, wet and dry weather traction, and proper tread wear. An under- or overinflated tire will wear unevenly, and an un-

derinflated tire is more likely to fail due to overheating. Be sure to use the inflation numbers printed on the door sticker rather than the maximum pressure stamped on the tire's sidewall. Tire pressure should be checked at least monthly. If you're likely to be remiss in doing so, a \$20 set of tire of tire pressure indicator caps can be easily installed on the valve stems and visually monitored. These are purchased for a particular desired pressure and show a red band should inflation pressure drop more than a few pounds.

Periodic tire rotation and proper wheel alignment are also essential for long tire life. Rotating tires at each or every other oil change helps even out wear. Should tires not be rotated, one

will typically find the front tires will require premature replacement due to cornering wear on the outer edges. In this case you'd likely renew all four tires, and there would be perhaps 30 percent tread or more remaining that would be wasted.

Having a front and, if applicable, rear wheel alignment

performed at the time of tire purchase is advisable but not mandatory. Tires need to run very close to true vertical, and even the slightest amount of pigeon toe scrubs off rubber at an alarming rate. If you stay away from curbs and big potholes, wheel alignment should not appreciably change, until high mileage wear allows things to loosen up. Giving the tires a close look just prior to rotation

tells a useful story. If a noticeable tread wear irregularity is not seen, comparing each tire to the others, your wheel alignment is probably OK.

*Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him e-mail at under-the-hood@earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.*

## Dig into warranty specifics before logging complaint

By PAUL BRAND  
STAR TRIBUNE (MINNEAPOLIS)

**QUESTION: My daughter shopped for, purchased and financed her first vehicle on her own. It's a 2000 Nissan Pathfinder. She bought a warranty through the dealer. No complaints, except this rig goes through a quart of oil every 500 miles. The warranty folks don't want to spend any money because nothing is broken. Is there any way to resolve this short of just letting the engine run out of oil and seize up? I'm not sure they would honor the warranty in that case anyway, and it would be pretty irresponsible.**

**ANSWER:** I agree that letting the engine run out of oil and fail is a bad plan, but I do understand the frustration. You didn't mention how many miles are on this 10-plus-year-old vehicle nor the specifics of warranty coverage, but the typical industry standard for oil consumption is about 1,000 miles per quart. Most warranty coverage would require a specific oil consumption test to determine the exact level of oil use. If that level ex-

ceeded manufacturer's specifications, warranty coverage for repair would likely apply.

Again, I don't know the specifics of the warranty on this vehicle, so I suggest you have her read the warranty carefully and if necessary ask for legal help from an attorney or the state attorney general's office.

In the meantime, changing to slightly heavier oil (10W rather than 5W), lowering oil operating temperatures by adding an additional oil cooler or switching to synthetic oil. Trying an oil additive or engine flush may improve oil consumption to an acceptable level.

**Q: My 2002 Chevrolet Impala has intermittent electrical problems. The message center indicates "security," "service engine soon" and "battery." During this time, the radio does not work and the air conditioning works only by repeatedly turning it off and on. The battery was replaced last month, but the problem has become more frequent.**

**A:** The good news is that an intermittent electrical problem rarely means a component fail-

ure. The bad news is that the very nature of most intermittent electrical problems is the difficulty pinpointing the cause. In your case, there might be a specific answer. My Alldata automotive database pulled up GM service bulletin 00-06-04-049B, dated December 2003, that identifies electrical issues similar to yours and directs technicians to check for the "engine wiring harness chafing against the mounting ring on the air conditioning accumulator."

**Q: Could you shed some light on a problem with my dad's 2003 Chevy Blazer V6 with 125,000 miles? About six months ago, the "service engine soon" light came on steady. The P1153 code (HO2S B2 S1) was the current fault displayed. I replaced the oxygen sensor with an original-equipment part, and the light stayed out for about three months. Now, the "service engine" light is illuminated again, with the same P1153 code displayed. Is there a service bulletin on that vehicle for this problem?**

**A:** No, but this situation provides a good opportunity for all of us to understand a bit more about modern on-board diagnostic systems. The diagnostic trouble code P1153 indicates that this heated oxygen sensor's rich-lean-rich transitions are less than the calibrated value. It does not necessarily mean the sensor is faulty. The engine may be operating too rich or too lean, or the sensor may have become contaminated from excess oil, fuel or coolant. The fault code could also indicate a harness or connector issue for the sensor.

Having replaced the sensor once, the next step is to connect a scan tool to monitor engine operating temperature and performance and test the sensor's dynamic performance.

*Paul Brand, author of How to Repair Your Car, is an automotive troubleshooter, driving instructor and former race-car driver. Readers may write to him at: Star Tribune, 425 Portland Ave. S., Minneapolis, Minn. 55488 or via e-mail at paul-brand@startribune.com. Please explain the problem in detail and include a daytime phone number. It isn't always possible to send a personal reply.*



Driving style can make a noticeable difference in tire life.

### 5TH YEAR DEATH ANNIVERSARY



## †Sabra Tudela Camacho

"Says" or "Dinga"

December 14, 1986 — February 24, 2006

We, the family of the late Sabra Tudela Camacho, would like to invite all our relatives, friends, and acquaintances to join us in prayer as we commemorate the Fifth Year Death Anniversary of our beloved daughter and sister into eternal life.

Daily Mass will be offered at St. Remedios Church in Tanapag as follow:

**February 16 – 19, 2011 6:00PM**  
**Sunday, February 20, 2011 8:00AM**  
**February 21 – 23, 2011 6:00PM**

On the final day Thursday, February 24th, Mass will be celebrated at 6:00PM at St. Remedios Church. Dinner will be served immediately after Mass.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated

Un Dangkulu Na Si Yu'us Ma'ase

Ginen I Familia

### MESSAGE OF APPRECIATION

*“The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine on you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace.”*



We, the family of the late  
**Jesus Lizama Kisa**  
deeply appreciate your kind expression of sympathy in our time of great sorrow.  
We know our pain will decrease and what will remain will always be.

*Love all whom you hold dear  
Precious is the time you share  
Do not wait for tomorrow  
For tomorrow may not be...*

On behalf of the family, our heartfelt thanks and deep appreciation for your act of kindness and sympathy. Rest assured that your gesture will forever be remembered.

Thank you for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers and may the Lord bless you and all your families.



# Life & Style

## Lady A wins record, song of year at the Grammys

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Lady Antebellum was the big winner at the Grammys with five awards, including record and song of the year for the band's yearning crossover ballad "Need You Now," but rockers Arcade Fire won Sunday's biggest prize, album of the year, for their highly acclaimed "The Suburbs."

Arcade Fire's Win Butler was visibly stunned as the group accepted their trophy and then quickly rushed to perform the last song of the night.

Eminem perhaps had reason to be stunned as well. Though nominated for a leading 10

awards, including record, song, and album of the year, he took home just two—both in the rap categories, for best album and solo performance. It was the third time Eminem lost in the category, despite a critically acclaimed work that marked his resurgence after time out of the spotlight, a few sub-par projects and successful recovery from a prescription drug addiction.

While Arcade Fire's win was a surprise, it wasn't totally unexpected, as "The Suburbs" dominated many critic's best-of lists of 2010. The true upset, however, came as Esperanza Spalding—a jazz bassist and singer who sold

a fraction of Justin Bieber's music and is perhaps best identified by her voluminous Afro—beat the perfectly coifed 16-year-old pop phenomenon, and also Florence & the Machine, Mumford & Sons and Drake for best new artist.

She is the first jazz artist to ever win the category.

"I take this honor to heart so sincerely and I'll do my damndest to make great music for all of you. It's such an honor and God bless," said a shocked Spalding, who released her third album, "The Chamber Music Society," last year.

While Bieber-nation was in an uproar, the teen sensation

himself was cheerful backstage after the loss—perhaps assuaged by the fact that he's sold millions and owns the nation's No. 2 movie with his documentary "Never Say Never."

"I'm really happy for her and I had a great night. We performed, I got to perform with my mentor which is amazing," said Bieber, who playfully jumped on Usher in the press room. "I'm really happy for her and hopefully she has a good year."

The evening's other top winners included Jay-Z, John Legend, and Lady Gaga, who each had three trophies; Muse, who won best rock album; and Train,

whose "Hey, Soul Sister (Live)," one of the year's top songs, captured best pop performance by a duo or group with vocals.

Lady Antebellum's wins mark the second straight year a country crossover act was the night's top story; Last year, Taylor Swift captured best album among her wins.

The Grammys give out 109 awards—but most of those are doled out before the live telecast in a ceremony before the CBS show. Instead of focusing on the awards, the Grammy show emphasized performances for the year's most celebrated artists, along with emerging acts

and true legends.

Lady Gaga entered the Staples Center, where the Grammys were held, in dramatic fashion, encased in an egg as dancers carried her to the stage. When she "hatched," she seemed to have turned into Madonna, circa 1987, as she sashayed across the stage to her new song "Born This Way."

But the singer, normally the most outrageous performer on any bill, was out-Gaga'd by Cee Lo Green, Gwyneth Paltrow and Jim Henson Co.'s puppets, who gave a hilarious performance of "Forget You" that would have done Elton John proud.

### Lady Gaga lays egg (really!) on the Grammys red carpet

**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—The bleacher fans went gaga over Lady Gaga at Sunday's Grammy Awards, but then how often do you see someone arrive on the red carpet encased in an iridescent egg-shaped container carried by a gaggle of scantily clad men in gold.

"Gaga! Gaga!" the fans shouted as she passed by on her way inside Staples Center, even though it was impossible to tell what she was wearing and her face couldn't be clearly seen.

That wasn't the case with Nicki Minaj. She wore a short leopard print dress by Givenchy with the back of her hair dyed in a matching leopard pattern. The rest of her hair was done up in a towering blond beehive with a dark streak on the front.

"I love when people say, 'What was she wearing?' Wouldn't you rather be exciting than boring?" she said.

Cyndi Lauper found herself next to Minaj on the carpet and they compared notes.

"I love the outfit," Lauper said. "I don't have dos and don'ts. This is rock 'n roll, baby, you can do what you like."

Esperanza Spalding did just that. The 26-year-old jazz singer, composer and arranger wore a long green gown that she said reflected her personality.

"Bright, green and many layers," she said.

■■■■■  
**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—Justin Bieber cannot be stopped.

The pop singer, who just released a 3D movie and has a highly anticipated Grammy Awards performance Sunday night, breezed by scores of reporters hoping to get a few moments with the 16-year-old phenom.

His parents did stop briefly, with his mother, Patricia Lynn Mallette, saying her son's rise to stardom "has been so unexpected and so quick."

Bieber was scheduled to share the stage during a performance Sunday night with his mentor, Usher.

He was also nominated in the Best New Artist category and is not only a fan favorite, but the artist many of his peers hoped to see.

Nicki Minaj called him "adorable and cute" and said she wished him well for his performance.

Disney teen star Selena Gomez, who is reportedly dating Bieber (but they won't confirm it), told The Associated Press she was excited for the show.

"I think everybody should be proud of him," she said.

■■■■■  
**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—A year ago, Lady Antebellum was celebrating its first Grammy win. A lot has changed since then for the country trio, which picked up two early awards on Sunday.

"We're a lot busier," singer Hillary Scott said. "We're just stronger than ever as a band and are trying to enjoy this ride. It's been amazing. We've been able to take our music all over the world."

As the group was walking the red carpet, they had already won two Grammys in the pre-show awards presentation: best country song for "Need You Now" and country performance by a duo or group with vocals.

"We get to go into the night already feeling like winners and it takes the pressure off a little bit," singer Charles Kelley said.

■■■■■  
**LOS ANGELES (AP)**—B.o.B., whose "Nothin' on You" with Bruno Mars scored big on the charts, called it a "straitjacket year. Definitely crazy."

The rapper endorsed one of the year's other big hitmakers—teen sensation Justin Bieber.

"Justin Bieber is my homie. He's cool," B.o.B. said. "He's got all the tools he needs to remain in the industry."

Bieber wasn't talking to reporters on the Grammy red carpet, but he was on everyone else's minds.

"I enjoyed the Bieb's movie. It's very sweet," comedian Kathy Griffin said.

### IN CELEBRATION OF HER NEW LIFE

## EMILIA (EMY) VILLAGOMEZ CAMACHO

Born to life on September 29, 1946  
was called to eternal rest on February 9, 2011

#### Her memory will live in the hearts of her:

Husband:  
Daughter:  
Pineksai:

**Juan Aguon Camacho**  
**Erin Angela V. Camacho**  
**Warren F./Antonette R. Villagomez**  
(Sydney, Sage, & Cecilia)  
**Michelle V./Patrick C. Guerrero**  
(Patrick)

#### Brothers/Sisters:

Margarita N. Tenorio and family  
Carmen L. Villagomez  
**Manuel P./Elizabeth F. Villagomez and family**  
**Jose P. Villagomez/Patricia Camacho and family**  
**Frank P./Rell A. Villagomez and family**  
**John P. Villagomez**  
**Magdalena (Maggie) P. Villagomez**

#### Brothers/Sisters in Law:

Bishop Tomas A. Camacho  
Francisco A./Isabel V. Camacho and family  
Roman A./Beverly M. Camacho and family

#### In her new life, she now joins her:

Parents:  
Brothers:

†Juan Cruz/†Luisa Pangelinan Villagomez  
†Eugenio V. Tenorio  
†Ricardo P. Villagomez  
†Martin P./†Frances C. Villagomez

#### Parents in Law:

#### Brothers/Sisters in law:

†Vidal Palacios/†Maria Aguon Camacho  
†Gregoria C./†Juan SN. Cabrera  
†Herbert/†Ignatia M. San Nicolas  
†Roman A. Camacho (Amku)  
†Vicenta A. Camacho  
†Antonio A. Camacho  
†Luis A. Camacho

Daily rosary is offered at the Mount Carmel Cathedral at 6:30 p.m.

On Friday, February 18, 2011, the body will be escorted from the Borja Funeral Home to the Mount Carmel Cathedral at 7:30 a.m. followed by the Responso and Holy Rosary. The Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11:00 a.m. followed by the burial at the CNMI Veteran's Cemetery at Marpi.

Your thoughts and prayers are greatly appreciated.

From Juan Aguon Camacho, Erin Angela V. Camacho, and family



# 'King's Speech' big winner at British film awards

LONDON (AP)—Royal drama "The King's Speech" was crowned the big winner Sunday at Britain's top film awards—a sign that it may reign again at Hollywood's Academy Awards in two weeks' time.

The made-in-England story of King George VI and his struggle to overcome a stutter won seven prizes, including best picture and acting trophies for Colin Firth, Helena Bonham Carter and Geoffrey Rush.

It had to share the crown jewels with Facebook-founding drama "The Social Network," which took three prizes including best director for David Fincher. Mind-bending saga "Inception" also won three trophies.

"The King's Speech" went into the awards as heavy favorite with 14 nominations—an unexpected British triumph

that cost a reported 15 million pounds (\$24 million) to make and has taken many times that at the global box office.

It beat "The Social Network," "Black Swan," "Inception" and "True Grit" to the best picture prize.

Perfectly timed in a year that sees the royal wedding of Prince William and Kate Middleton, the movie tells the true story of George VI, thrust unexpectedly onto the throne by his elder brother's abdication, and his battle to overcome a stammer with the help of an unconventional speech therapist.

Screenwriter David Seidler said he was astonished that this small film about "two men in a room" had been so popular around the world.

"I don't think it's the fascination with royalty," Seidler said.

"I don't think it's the ostrich plumes and the gold braid. I think it's the fact that it's a story about changing your destiny."

The British-American writer, who overcame a childhood stammer and has worked on the screenplay for 30 years, said that "for a stutterer ... to be heard is a wonderful thing."

As expected, Firth won best actor for his portrayal of the reluctant monarch. He has already won a best actor trophy at the Golden Globes and is a favorite for an Oscar.

"I like coming here," said Firth, who won the same prize last year for "A Single Man."

"The King's Speech" also took awards for best British film, original screenplay, original music, supporting actor for Rush's turn as speech therapist Lionel Logue and supporting



In this Sept. 10, 2010 file photo, actor Colin Firth of the film "The King's Speech" poses for a portrait while promoting the film at the Toronto International Film Festival.

actress, for Bonham Carter's performance as the Queen Mother Elizabeth.

"I think I should thank the royal family, frankly, because they've done wonders for my career," Bonham Carter said.

Bonham Carter, who also recently played the giant-craniumed Red Queen in husband Tim Burton's "Alice in Wonderland," joked that "I seem to be playing queens with ever-decreasing head sizes."

Natalie Portman won the best actress prize for psychosexual dance thriller "Black Swan," its only win from 12 nominations.

"The Social Network" took directing and editing prizes, as well as an award for Aaron Sorkin's adapted screenplay. "Inception" won prizes for sound, production design and visual effects.

Writer-director Chris Morris

took the prize for best British debut for "Four Lions," his comedy about a group of bumbling would-be suicide bombers.

Swedish thriller "The Girl With the Dragon Tattoo" was named best foreign language film. Producer Soeren Staermose joked that its no-holds-barred heroine, Lisbeth Salander, was "the scariest thing to come out of Sweden since ABBA."

Most of the winners are selected by the votes of 6,000 academy members.

Actor Tom Hardy won the Rising Star Award, decided by public vote.

The awards, known as BAFTAs, are considered a strong indicator of possible Oscars glory. Last year, Iraq war drama "The Hurt Locker" won six BAFTAs, including best picture—then repeated the feat at the Oscars.

## Sandler, Aniston barely beat Bieber at box office

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Adam Sandler and Jennifer Aniston are America's box-office sweethearts, but Justin Bieber is the valentine for teens.

The Valentine's Day weekend was a close one as Sandler and Aniston's romantic comedy, "Just Go With It," debuted with \$31 million, according to studio estimates Sunday.

That was just ahead of the concert documentary "Justin Bieber: Never Say Never," which opened a close second with \$30.3 million.

Sony's "Just Go With It" and Paramount's "Never Say Never" were close enough that the rankings could change when studios release final numbers Monday.

The teen pop idol's flick exceeded industry expectations and nearly matched the \$31.1 million opening of 2008's "Hannah Montana & Miley Cyrus: Best of Both Worlds Concert," the record-holder for music-documentary debuts. Another love story, Disney's animated adventure "Gnomeo & Juliet," opened solidly at No. 3 with \$25.5 million. The movie features the voices of Emily Blunt and James McAvoy in a twist on "Romeo and Juliet" told with garden gnomes.

The weekend's other new wide release, Focus Features' ancient Roman saga "The Eagle," was No. 4 with \$8.6 million. The film stars Channing Tatum and Jamie Bell on a quest into the wilds of 2nd century Scotland.

Though Hollywood generally did strong business, revenues still were down compared to the previous year's for the 14th weekend in a row.

Receipts came in at \$149 million, off 27 percent from the same weekend a year ago, when "Valentine's Day," "Percy Jackson & the Olympians: The Lightning Thief" and "The Wolfman" combined for debuts totaling nearly \$120 million, according to box-office tracker Hollywood.com.



Actors Adam Sandler and Jennifer Aniston attend the premiere of "Just Go With It" at The Ziegfeld Theater, in New York on Tuesday, Feb. 8, 2011.

hits, pulling in the over-25 crowd, while teen girls flocked to Bieber's film, which gave "Just Go for It" a run for the No. 1 spot.

"It was a bit of a nail-biter," said Rory Bruer, Sony's head of distribution. "But quite frankly, what you could see is that both movies were going to do business. Overall, it was a pretty good movie-going weekend."

While critics hated "Just Go With It," Bieber's "Never Say Never" earned fairly good reviews. But audiences for music documentaries and concert films are tough to track, and even some insiders at Paramount thought the movie might do as little as \$10 million over opening weekend, just a third of what it actually delivered.

Adding in ticket sales from preview screenings Wednesday, the movie's domestic total stood at \$31 million.

"I've clearly caught the Bieber fever, and I don't think they were looking for me. I don't think I was anywhere near their target audience," said Don Harris, Paramount's executive vice president for distribution. "I caught it when the grosses started coming in."

In limited release, Fox Searchlight's comedy "Cedar Rapids" debuted well with \$310,789 in 15 theaters, for a healthy average of \$20,719 a cinema.

That compared to an average of \$9,746 in 3,105 theaters for "Never Say Never," \$8,737 in 3,548 cinemas for "Just Go With It," \$8,517 in 2,994 locations for "Gnomeo & Juliet" and \$3,741 in 2,296 spots for "The Eagle."

"Cedar Rapids" stars Ed Helms as a naive insurance salesman who gets some life lessons at a business conference. The movie gradually expands into nationwide release over the next month.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.

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For Friday, February 11<sup>th</sup> through Thursday, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
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**NOW SHOWING**



### Just Go With It

Friday 4:10 7:10 9:50  
 Saturday 1:10 4:10 7:10 9:50  
 Sunday 1:10 4:10 7:10  
 Mon thru Thurs 4:10 7:10

**Jennifer Aniston, Adam Sandler**  
 Comedy • Rated PG 13

### Synopsis

Danny (Adam Sandler) has a unique approach to picking up women—in order to break the ice and gain their sympathy, he pretends to be stuck in an unhappy marriage. The instant he brandishes his wedding ring, the deal is all but cinched. But when Danny finally meets a woman (Brooklyn Decker) that he really would want to marry, he abandons his usual approach for something a bit more subtle.



### Gnomeo & Juliet

Friday 4:00 7:00 9:30  
 Saturday 1:00 4:00 7:00 9:30  
 Sunday 1:00 4:00 7:00  
 Mon thru Thurs 4:00 7:00

**James McAvoy, Emily Blunt**  
 Musical, Children's/family • Rated G



### Justin Bieber: Never Say Never

Friday 4:05 7:05 9:45  
 Saturday 1:05 4:05 7:05 9:45  
 Sunday 1:05 4:05 7:05  
 Mon thru Thurs 4:05 7:05

**Justin Bieber**  
 Musical • Rated G



### Sanctum

Friday 4:15 7:15 10:00  
 Saturday 1:15 4:15 7:15 10:00  
 Sunday 1:15 4:15 7:15  
 Mon thru Thurs 4:15 7:15

**Richard Roxburgh, Rhys Wakefield**  
 Drama • Rated R

### Synopsis

Based on true events, producer James Cameron presents this adventure drama concerning a father and son who are trapped in an underwater cave with a team of divers as the group strives to stay alive against all hope. Kokoda's Alister Grierson directs from a script by Andrew Wight and John Garvin.



### The Rite

Friday 4:20 7:20 9:40  
 Saturday 1:20 4:20 7:20 9:40  
 Sunday 1:20 4:20 7:20  
 Mon thru Thurs 4:20 7:20

**Anthony Hopkins**  
 Thriller • Rated PG 13



### The Mechanic

Friday 4:25 7:25 9:35  
 Saturday 1:25 4:25 7:25 9:35  
 Sunday 1:25 4:25 7:25  
 Mon thru Thurs 4:25 7:25

**Jason Statham, Ben Foster**  
 Action • Rated R



### No Strings Attached

Friday 9:45  
 Saturday 9:45  
 Sunday 7:05  
 Mon thru Thurs 7:05

**Natalie Portman, Ashton Kutcher**  
 Comedy • Rated R



### Gulliver's Travels

Friday 4:30 7:30  
 Saturday 1:30 4:30 7:30  
 Sunday 1:30 4:30  
 Mon thru Thurs 4:30

**Jack Black, Emily Blunt**  
 Comedy, Fantasy • Rated PG

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# Liz Taylor remains hospitalized for heart failure

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Elizabeth Taylor is likely to spend another few days in a Los Angeles hospital while being treated for congestive heart failure, a spokeswoman for the Oscar-winning actress said Sunday.

Sally Morrison said Taylor was resting comfortably and had been receiving family and friends in her room at Cedars-Sinai Medical Center.

"She had a pretty good day Saturday, and a good night," Morrison said.



Taylor

The 78-year-old Taylor was admitted late last week and is being treated for symptoms caused by congestive heart failure, a condition she disclosed she had back in November 2004.

Morrison didn't know exactly how long Taylor would be in the hospital but said if past treatments are any indication it could be for several more days.

"At this stage, with her history, they're going to want to keep her in for a while just to

make sure they've fixed what they needed to fix," Morrison said, who did not offer details of the treatment.

Taylor, who's appeared in more than 50 films, won Oscars for her performances in "Butterfield 8" (1960) and "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?" (1966). But she's been just as famous for her marriages—all eight of them, including two to Richard Burton—and her lifelong battles with substance abuse, her weight and physical ailments, including numerous visits to the hospital for more than 20 major operations and countless treatments.

The actress had near-fatal bouts with pneumonia in 1961 and 1990, and another respiratory infection forced her to cancel all engagements for several weeks in late 1992. She had both hip joints replaced in 1994 and 1995.

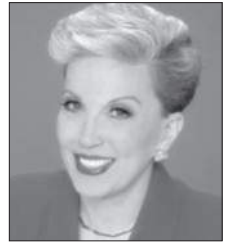
Her 2004 diagnosis for congestive heart failure, compounded with spinal fractures and the effects of scoliosis, left her nearly bedridden. She's also battled ulcers, amoebic dysentery, bursitis, and had a benign brain tumor removed in 1997. In recent years, she has had to use a wheelchair when out in public.

## Obesity is serious health issue best approached with tact

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY:** Allow me to respond to the column about obesity in the United States (Dec. 27). Why has obesity in the U.S. become the "elephant in the room," off-limits to discuss? Obesity is a serious health problem and should be talked about. Obese people need to understand the potential dangers of their condition, just as smokers do.

I was berated by my family, friends and the media for being a smoker. Did I disown them all? No, I sucked it up and quit. Overweight people should take control of their lives, and people like you, Abby, should stop coddling them!



Dear Abby

PETER IN BEND, ORE.

**DEAR PETER:** Ouch! Many readers also felt I should eat my words—including health care professionals. Read on for more insights:

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** As a public health nutritionist, I would like to bring another perspective to "Brother Black Sheep," whose sister banned him from family events because he mentioned the obesity epidemic. Because obesity has far-reaching implications for our children, our future and our economy, it is well worth talking about.

Declaring the topic off-limits won't make it go away. Researchers at Stanford University have found that more than 40 percent of parents of obese children described them as "about the right weight." Another study showed that only 30 percent of pediatricians addressed weight issues with their patients. Those who did were more likely to see positive changes in their patients' nutrition and activity habits.

Tact is, of course, important, and it appears "Brother" could use some help in that department. Acknowledging the difficulty of maintaining a healthy weight when we are surrounded by hyper-palatable foods and live in an environment that discourages activity is a good conversation starter. Using the phrase "high BMI" (Body Mass Index) is better received than the word "fat." Hopefully, families can learn to talk productively about how to support each other to eat right and stay active instead of banning the subject.

ANITA COURTNEY, M.S., R.D.

■ ■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm a fourth-year medical student, and you wouldn't believe the number of patients we see who don't believe they have a weight problem, or who think they're "slightly overweight" when they're actually morbidly obese. A main reason for weight gain is that most Americans have no concept of portion control and healthy eating habits.

Many people would prefer a magic pill instead of attempting difficult behavioral changes. While weight is obviously a sensitive topic for many individuals, and "Brother" was mistaken in assuming it would be acceptable dinnertime conversation, ignoring the topic is what got us into this epidemic in the first place.

I challenge "Brother" to introduce his relatives to the sensible habits he learned abroad—walking, healthier meals with smaller portions, and less fried, salted, sugary processed foods. Supportive family members are often far more effective than a doctor's lecture on the perils of obesity, and I wish him luck in his endeavors.

MED STUDENT WITH NO MAGIC PILL

**DEAR READERS:** If, after reading this, any of you are interested in a tried-and-true program for weight loss, **Overeaters Anonymous** is a 12-step self-help group that started in 1960. It has been mentioned in this column many times. Its website is [www.oa.org](http://www.oa.org); the phone number is (505) 891-2664. There are more than 9,000 O.A. groups in the U.S. and internationally.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Abby shares more than 100 of her favorite recipes in two booklets: "Abby's Favorite Recipes" and "More Favorite Recipes by Dear Abby." Send a business-size, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for \$12 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Cookbooklet Set, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in price.)

## First lady says laughter is key to togetherness

WASHINGTON (AP)—Here's Michelle Obama's advice for couples this Valentine's Day: laugh with your partner.

She says it's what she and President Barack Obama do, and it seems to be working. Their marriage, although tested throughout the years by his political ambitions—for the Illinois Senate, the U.S. Senate and later president—is going on 19 years.

"I think a lot of laughing," the first lady said Tuesday at a White House luncheon with reporters who asked about the Obamas' union. "I think in our house we don't take ourselves too seriously, and laughter is the best form of unity, I think, in a marriage."

"So we still find ways to have fun together, and a lot of it is private and personal. But we keep each other smiling and that's good," she added.

It also helps that Obama is "very romantic."

"He remembers dates, birthdays," Mrs. Obama said last week on "Live! With Regis and Kelly." "He doesn't forget a thing, even when I think he is. I'll have a little attitude. I give him a little attitude, but he always comes through."

"Got to keep the romance alive, even in the White House," she said.

As for Valentine's Day on Monday, the first lady said her husband would do right by giving her jewelry.

"You can't go wrong," she said.

But Mrs. Obama also said they don't fuss too much over the day that's about celebrating love and affection between couples.

Last year, the Obamas spent Valentine's Day at the Camp David presidential retreat in Maryland.

In 2009, their first year in the White House, they went home to Chicago and enjoyed a quiet dinner at Table 52, a traditional Southern restaurant owned by Art Smith, the former chef of Obama pal Oprah Winfrey.

How will they celebrate this year? Stay tuned.

## 'Glee' star says solo CD features 'dream' duets

LOS ANGELES (AP)—"Glee" star Matthew Morrison recently announced that he has a duet with Elton John on his upcoming CD. But that won't be all.

The 32-year-old says his debut album will feature two more duets, explaining that after working with the performers his "dreams have all come true."

Morrison said he will release the album in May, with a first single out in

three weeks. He describes the sound as "very eclectic," saying he's an "old school soul" and that he drew inspiration from the music he grew up on, like Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr.

He made the comments before he performed "Over the Rainbow" at the Clive Davis pre-Grammy party.

The "Glee" cast has two nominations at Sunday's Grammys.



Morrison

## Reggae star Buju Banton faces life in US prison

MIAMI (AP)—Grammy-winning singer Buju Banton checked out some cocaine, put some on his finger and tasted it—all of it caught on law enforcement video inside a Florida warehouse. Now he has another chance to explain why.

His second trial is scheduled to begin Monday, just a day after his 2010 album "Before the Dawn" won the Grammy award for best reggae album. The trial comes five months after a pre-

vious jury hung on federal drug trafficking charges that could put him in prison for life.

Banton, whose real name is Mark Myrie, claims he was entrapped by a confidential informant and got in over his head while trying to impress the man, who implied he could help Banton's music career. The U.S. government says Banton conspired with two associates to buy a shipment of cocaine from an undercover officer.



Banton

## Royal romance of William, Kate turned into comics



In this photo released by Markosia Enterprises Saturday Feb. 12 2011 is an illustration for the graphic novel "Kate and William: A Very Public Love Affair."

LONDON (AP)—The royal love story has been chronicled in speech bubbles and sketches.

A comic book telling the story of Prince William and Kate Middleton's romance is due to be published in April, joining a host of other books and memorabilia flooding the market ahead of the April 29 royal wedding.

"There's always been a tradition in this country of comics for girls in which the girl dreams of meeting someone famous and falling in love," said Mike Collins, the artist who did the illustrations for "Kate and William: A Very Public Love Story."

"In this case, this is what's happened and it's for real," he said.

The graphic novel will be published in two editions: The first follows the prince's life from the rugby pitches of his exclusive boarding school to his adventures in the Royal Air Force, while the other traces Middleton's half of the story with cheeky fictional diary entries that imagine her as a love-struck student who later comes to terms with the ups and downs of being a future king's girlfriend.







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# Sports

Rondo, Celtics on to beat Spurs

## Minor wins doubles in Australia

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
roselyn\_b.monroyo@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Thea Minor ended her campaign in the 2011 Goulburn Valley Junior Championships in Australia on a high note after capturing the doubles crown in the U18 division of the five-day tournament.

Minor teamed up with fellow Pacific Islands member Amanda Korinih...

Curtis-McDonald...

Wednesday...

By JAYVEE VALLEJERA  
jayvee\_vallejera@saipantribune.com

# Saipan Tribune

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By JAYVEE VALLEJERA

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Volume XXI, Issue No. 5

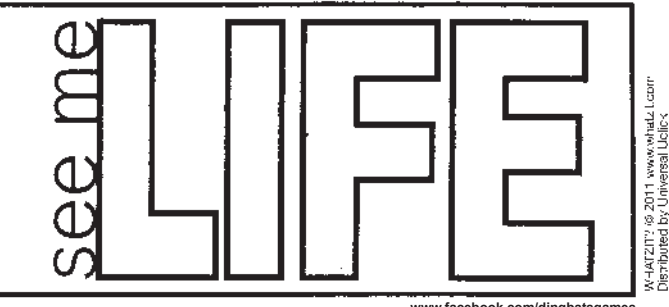
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OPINION METER

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# Wizards end road winless streak at 25



**CLEVELAND** (AP)—Nick Young scored 31 points, and John Wall had 19 points and 14 assists as the Washington Wizards snapped its 25-game road winless streak with a 115-100 win Sunday over the Cleveland Cavaliers.

The Wizards opened a 25-point lead in the third quarter, survived a Cleveland comeback and got their first road win since April 9 at Boston.

Antawn Jamison scored 21 and J.J. Hickson added 16 and 13 rebounds for the Cavs, who stopped their losing streak at 26 on Friday night against the Los Angeles Clippers but failed to post back-to-back wins for the second time this season.

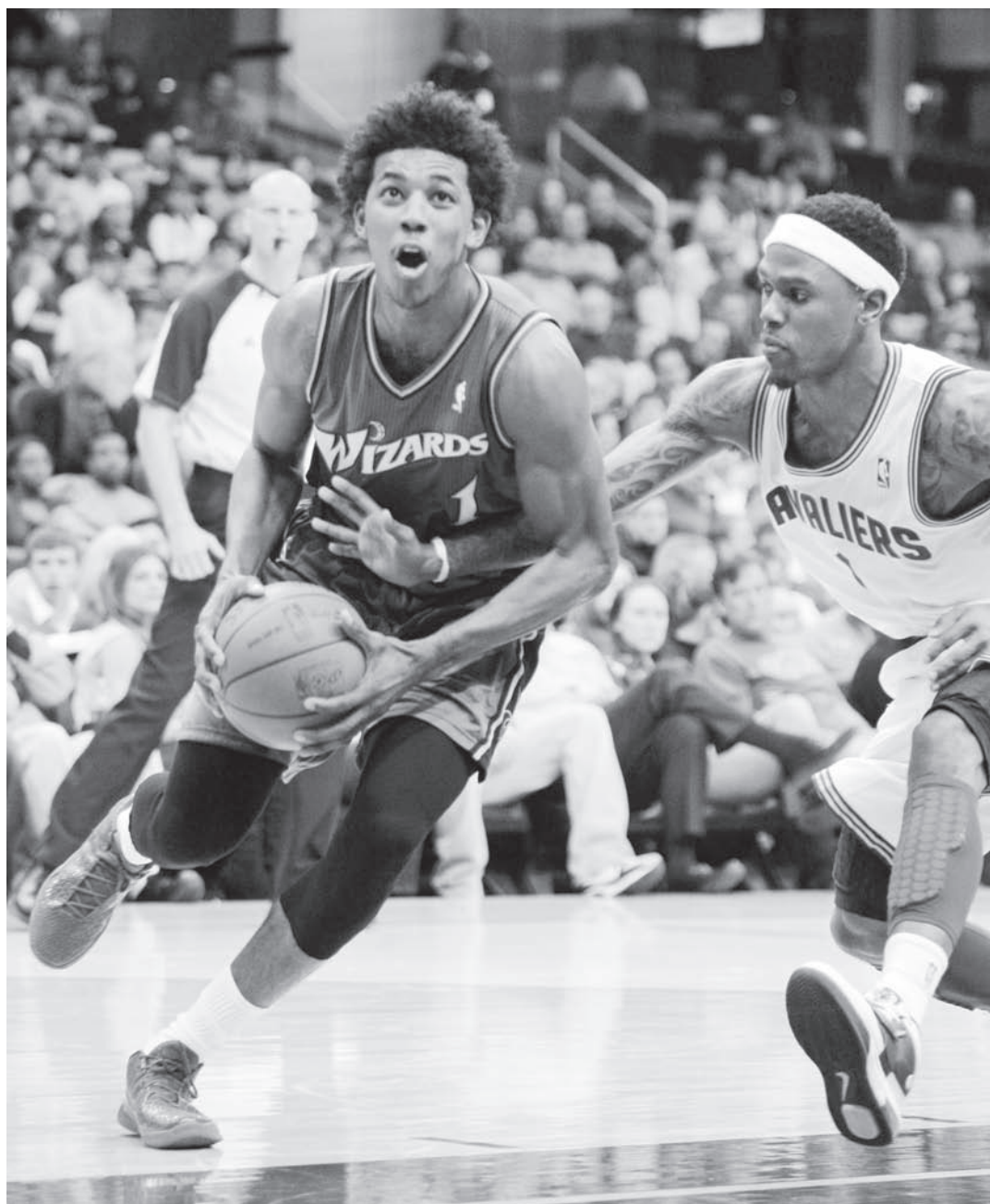
## Celtics 85, Heat 82

At Boston, Rajon Rondo had a triple-double with 11 points, 10 assists and 10 rebounds as Boston beat Miami, with the defending Eastern Conference champions clinching the season series against their top pursuer.

LeBron James scored 22 points for Miami, which had won eight in a row. But he missed the first of two free throws with 13 seconds left and the Heat trailing by two points. He dived into the stands to knock away the inbound pass, but threw it right to Ray Allen.

Glen Davis made both of his free throws with 6.3 seconds to go, and Mike Miller missed a 3-point attempt in the final seconds that would have sent the game to overtime.

With the win, the Celtics (39-14) took back the top spot in the conference from Miami (39-15) and earned the tiebreaker for home-court advantage in the playoffs.



Washington Wizards' Nick Young, left, is fouled by Cleveland Cavaliers' Daniel Gibson in the first quarter in an NBA basketball game Sunday, Feb. 13, 2011, in Cleveland.

## Magic 89, Lakers 75

At Orlando, Florida, Dwight Howard had 31 points and 13 rebounds as Orlando earned its first victory over a winning team in more than a month.

Kobe Bryant and Andrew Bynum each had 17 points to lead the Lakers. Lamar Odom

added 13 and Pau Gasol 11.

Jason Richardson chipped in 12 points for the Magic.

Orlando rebounded from a six-point home loss to New Orleans on Friday and snapped a string of eight straight losses to teams with winning records. Orlando's previous win

against a team above .500 was Jan. 8 at Dallas.

## Grizzlies 116, Nuggets 108

At Memphis, Tennessee, Darrell Arthur scored a career-high 24 points and Zach Randolph led a late rally that helped Memphis

erase a 17-point third-quarter deficit against Denver.

Rudy Gay had 23 points for Memphis, which used defensive pressure in the final period to outscore Denver 34-18. Tony Allen, who added 17 points, energized the defense while Randolph scored 12 of his 14 points in the fourth.

Mike Conley also had 17 points for Memphis and Marc Gasol added 15—all in the first half.

Carmelo Anthony, who entered averaging 32.8 points per game in February, finished with 28—his sixth game in the last seven with at least 25 points.

## Raptors 98, Clippers 93

At Toronto, Andrea Bargnani scored 27 points, and Ed Davis had 13 points and a career-high 14 rebounds as Toronto beat the Los Angeles Clippers.

DeMar DeRozan scored 17 points, Leandro Barbosa had 11 and Sonny Weems 10 for the Raptors, who had lost 16 of their previous 17.

Jose Calderon had 10 points and 11 assists as Toronto won its fifth straight over the Clippers.

Blake Griffin had 21 points and 15 rebounds and Baron Davis scored 20 points as Los Angeles lost for the sixth time in seven games. Brian Cook scored 17 points and Ryan Gomes

had 14 for the Clippers, who lost their second straight to a slumping Eastern Conference opponent.

## Trail Blazers 105, Pistons 100

At Auburn Hills, Michigan, LaMarcus Aldridge scored 36

points and Wesley Matthews added 24 as Portland beat Detroit for its fourth straight victory.

Andre Miller finished with 15 points and 12 assists for Portland, which has won six straight over the Pistons.

Ben Gordon scored 18 points and Tracy McGrady had 16 for Detroit.

## Kings 113, Suns 108

At Phoenix, Donte Greene scored 12 of his 19 points in the fourth quarter as Sacramento, playing without DeMarcus Cousins, ended a five-game losing streak.

Carl Landry added 20 points for the Kings, all but two in the second half. Samuel Dalembert, starting in place of Cousins, had 18 points and 15 rebounds. Cousins, a rookie averaging just under 14 points a game, did not make the trip because of an altercation in the locker room with Greene after the Kings' 99-97 home loss to Oklahoma City on Saturday night.

Steve Nash had 22 points and 18 assists, but the Suns lost for just the second time in eight games.

## Warriors 100, Thunder 94

At Oakland, California, Monta Ellis had 32 points, and David Lee added 23 points and a season-high 19 rebounds as Golden State led the entire fourth quarter on its way to a win over Oklahoma City.

Stephen Curry scored 23 points and had a season-high 13 assists to lead the Warriors to their sixth win in seven games.

Kevin Durant had 29 points and Russell Westbrook added 21 as Oklahoma City lost for the second time in its last three games.



## ARLINGTON, Texas

(AP)—Josh Hamilton walked through a gutted-out room under construction near the Texas Rangers clubhouse. The AL MVP had just agreed to a \$24 million, two-year contract.

"I was sweeping places out like this seven years ago or whatever," he said. "This goes for anybody. It's awesome to think about what God can do in your life if you allow him to. ... It's just amazing."

The deal, four days before a scheduled arbitration hearing in Phoenix, covers his last two arbitration-eligible seasons. Hamilton can become a free agent after the 2012 World Series.

Hamilton gets a \$3 million signing bonus, a \$7.25 million salary this year and \$13.75 million in 2012.

The three-time All-Star has a .311 career average with 93 homers and 331 RBIs in 468

## AL MVP Hamilton, Rangers reach \$24M, 2-year deal

major league games, an incredible comeback for the former No. 1 overall draft pick whose career was derailed by well-documented cocaine and alcohol addictions after he got hurt in the minors. He made his major league debut with Cincinnati in 2007, and he flourished after being traded to Texas.

"We want to be a part of this organization, not only for the next couple of years, but for a long time to come," Hamilton said.

General manager Jon Daniels termed the talks with Hamilton as "very good negotiations" and said he hopes the deal is indicative of a "longer relationship" that will include another multi-year agreement in the future.

"It was apparent that both sides wanted to do something to recognize both Josh's importance to the club, but also he and his family's desire to be here for

an extended period of time," Daniels said. "I think the first step that we took here with this deal kind of gets through the arbitration process."

While the Rangers settled the contract for Hamilton, they are still trying to accommodate Michael Young's request for a trade. Young is the team's career hits leader and longest-tenured player after 10 seasons.

After signing free agent third baseman Adrian Beltre last month, the Rangers said Young would become the primary designated hitter and serve in a utility role where he could fill in at every infield position. He had agreed to that plan.

Daniels confirmed earlier this week that Young had requested a trade, saying Young had a "change of heart about that role." Young later disputed that characterization, saying he had been "misled" and "manipulat-

ed" by the team without getting in specifics.

Hamilton hit a major league-leading .359 last season with 32 homers and 100 RBIs despite missing most of the final month of the regular season with broken ribs. The outfielder returned for the end of regular season and the playoffs.

Hamilton made \$3.25 million last season, when the Rangers went to the World Series for the first time in franchise history. When the sides exchange proposed arbitration salaries last month, Hamilton had asked for \$12 million, \$3.3 million more than Texas had offered.

It has been 11 years since the Rangers went to an arbitration hearing with a player.

"Obviously you want to have things behind you as far as the business standpoint, before you go start playing again," Hamilton said. "This

deal done allows me to do that for a couple of years now. ... Just go play and have fun, and stay away from walls."

Hamilton got hurt last year when he rolled his ankle and stumbled into the wall after making a catch on the warning track in Minnesota. He had two stints on the disabled list in 2009 after separate wall-crashing catches.

Last month, he spent six days in the hospital last month with pneumonia and lost 10 pounds during his illness. Hamilton said he has since added 12 pounds, to 235, and is feeling "very good" in his workouts.

Rangers pitchers and catchers report to Surprise, Ariz., next Wednesday. The first full-squad workout is Feb. 20.

There is the real possibility that Young could still be with the Rangers then.

Trading Young is difficult

because he is owed \$46 million over the remaining three seasons in contract—\$15 million in each of the next two seasons and \$16 million in 2013—and there are only eight teams not on his no-trade list. Daniels has said a deal will only be made if it improves the Rangers.

Daniels said Thursday his focus was still on trying to make a trade. He said if a deal was going to be made it would "most likely" be done before the first full-squad workout, though he has set no deadline.

"None of us are happy that it's come to this, especially publicly. Nobody looks good right now," Daniels said. "There's two potential outcomes. One is that there's a trade that makes sense for the club and satisfies Michael's request. The other is it doesn't and Michael will play a vital role on the club. ... It's premature for me to speculate on what's going to happen."



# Points wins Pebble Beach with Murray at his side



**P E B B L E BEACH, Calif.** (AP)—D.A. Points won for the first time on the PGA

Tour and wasn't even the biggest star. That's what made this Pebble Beach National Pro-Am so special.

Points grew up idolizing Bill Murray, whether it was his "Caddyshack" role as the assistant greenskeeper at Bushwood or his antics at Pebble Beach over the years. To have him as an amateur partner made this week great before it even started.

Then came Sunday, when Points holed out from 100 yards for eagle on the diabolical 14th at Pebble Beach to take the lead. That carried him to a 5-under 67 and a two-shot victory. Making it even sweeter, they won the pro-am title, a first for Murray, who now gets his name on the wall below the first tee.

This really was a Cinderella story. "It's a dream come true," Points said. "To win on the PGA Tour, and especially at Pebble Beach, and especially with Bill Murray ... I don't think I could dream this up."

Indeed, it was surreal at times.

One shot behind and facing the scarisiest shot at Pebble Beach that doesn't involve the Pacific Ocean, Points hit a gap wedge that barely cleared the bunker on the par-5 14th, landed in the first cut of rough and trickled down the slope and into the hole. He followed that with a bending, 30-foot birdie putt for a two-stroke lead that made Murray laugh because he didn't know what else to do.

And when Points felt his greatest pressure, he had some comic relief of his own.

He faced a 6-foot par putt on the 16th hole, and when his caddie asked him how he felt, Points replied, "Not very good." That's when he decided to take a page from Murray. As his partner stood over a long putt, Points hollered at him, "The crowd would be really happy if you could make that."

The gallery roared with laughter. Murray narrowly missed. More importantly, Points made his putt and sailed home with easy pars.



Actor Bill Murray, right, poses with D.A. Points, left, and Points' trophy on the 18th green during the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am golf tournament in Pebble Beach, Calif., Sunday, Feb. 13, 2011.

"It totally took me out of the moment for just enough to kind of help bring me back to life a little bit," Points said.

Hunter Mahan shot 31 on the front nine and twice was tied for the lead on the back nine. He birdied the 17th with a tee shot inside 3 feet, then reached the par-5 18th in two. But he three-putted for par, missing a 4-foot birdie putt.

Ultimately, it didn't matter. Mahan closed with a 66 and wound up alone in second, two shots behind.

Steve Marino, who had a one-shot lead going into the final round, never caught up after Points made his eagle from the 14th fairway. Marino missed a 12-foot birdie putt on the 16th to get within one, then slammed his driver to the turf on the 18th when his tee shot sailed into a bunker to the right.

Marino hit his third shot into the

ocean and made a triple-bogey 8 that mattered only in his bank account. Not making a par to share second place was the difference of \$327,200.

Tom Gillis closed with a 70 and finished alone in third.

Points and Murray won the pro-am tournament by two shots. The trophy was locked up with Points' par on the 18th when Murray announced his "big putt" that was meaningless. He then mimicked some dialogue from the "Cinderella Story" scene in Caddyshack, when Murray swatted at flowers with his scythe and imagined the former greenskeeper on the verge of winning the Masters.

"It's in the hole!!!!"

Not quite. As the putt headed toward the cup, Murray jogged over to tap it while it was still moving, then thrust

his arms in the air.

"The only chance D.A. had to win was if I could make it through the entire week without ever asking what the initials 'D.A.' stand for," Murray said. "And I didn't. And he's the champion."

In case he cares, they stand for Darren Andrews.

Murray also won the pro-am title in the Pebble Beach event on the Champions Tour with Scott Simpson, his longtime partner at Pebble Beach who played the straight man to Murray's routine.

It's not always easy playing with Murray, who constantly engages the crowd, bought ice cream bars for them on the back nine, and years ago enraged the PGA Tour brass when he flung an elderly woman into a bunker.

Some of his previous partners have

quietly asked that someone else play with Murray.

Points was all too happy.

"Everybody all week kept saying, 'You got the short end of the stick,'" Points said. "I never, ever felt that way. I tried to embrace it. He just seemed to have fun, and he taught me to go ahead and have a little more fun. And in turn, it distracted me from trying so hard. It kept me loose and having a good time with Bill."

Is this a new tandem?

"I'm thinking of turning pro," Murray said. "I probably won't. It's really nice to play with a gentleman. He's a good person. He's from Illinois. He's Lincoln-esque in stature and unfailingly polite."

Points showed that as he walked off the 18th green and said to the gallery, "Everyone, thank you for coming."

He put on quite a show.

Points started the final round two shots out of the lead, stayed in range and was flawless on the back nine. His big run started with an 8-foot birdie on the 10th hole, and then came his magical run.

For the second straight year, the pivotal hole at Pebble Beach turned out to be the 14th - this time for a good score. A year ago, Paul Goydos, Bryce Molden and Alex Prugh all had a chance to win until they made 9s on the par 5.

A few groups earlier, Phil Mickelson hit a 64-degree wedge that landed a foot on the green and rolled off to the left, down the slope. Points hit a gap wedge that was perfect, because it had to be. The ball landed in the first cut of rough, hopped onto the green and had just enough spin to slow to a trickle as it dropped.

His only mistake on the back nine was the chest-pump he tried to execute with Murray. They ran toward each other, and Points began to leap as Murray was landing. It looked bad, but it was an eagle 3 on the card.

Equally important was the birdie that followed, and Points was on his way.

He won for the first time in 128 starts on the PGA Tour. This earned him \$1.134 million—more than he has made in any of his previous four seasons on tour—a two-year exemption and his first trip to Masters.

## Woods has work to do after disappointing Dubai

**DUBAI, United Arab Emirates** (AP)—The flashes of brilliance at the Dubai Desert Classic didn't blind Tiger Woods to the signs that his new swing remains a work in progress.

Even so, Woods has no doubt about his future after stumbling in the final round Sunday, shooting a 3-over 75 to finish seven shots behind winner Alvaro Quiros in a tie for 20th.

"I feel like I can still win golf tournaments," Woods said. "I'm not that old. I've still got some years ahead of me."

Woods drew cheers Thursday when he hit a 3-wood 250 yards to the 18th green for an eagle. But he had trouble finding the fairway for much of the week in Dubai, his putter ran hot and cold, and his once-dangerous short game continued to let him down.

Woods started the final round a shot behind, but opened with two bogeys on his first three holes. He came back with birdies on Nos. 6 and 11, but followed that with a bogey on

Nos. 12 and 14, and then a double bogey on the last.

Woods, who won in Dubai in 2006 and 2008, has now gone 16 tournaments and 15 months without a victory after previously winning 14 majors and 82 tournaments.

"Yeah, very frustrating," Woods said of his final round. "I got off to such a poor start, I was 2 over through three early and just couldn't make it up from there."

Quiros shot a 68, surviving a wild round that included a hole-in-one and a triple bogey to finish at 11-under 277, one stroke ahead of Anders Hansen of Denmark (70) and James Kingston of South Africa (67).

Woods opened with a 71, moved into contention Friday with a 66, and survived windy conditions Saturday for a 72 that put him in position for his first victory since the Australian Masters in November 2009. He just couldn't keep the momentum going Sunday in a final round that exposed



the problems with his swing.

On the second, he drove over the green and then chipped past the hole, leading to his first bogey. On the third, he yelled at several photographers for disturbing his swing after his approach went left.

But the No. 3-ranked Woods also showed signs that the work he has been doing on his swing with coach Sean Foley is paying dividends. He hit a 160-yard approach to within a few feet of the pin for a birdie on the sixth and then on the par-3 11th hit a tee shot that settled a few feet away from the flag for an easy birdie.

Woods said he just needed "more work and more practice."

"As I said when I came in this week, I hit the ball pure, and that's the thing," he said. "When the wind blows, I have to shape shots and hit shots differently and all my old feels

are kind of out the window. That's the thing about making changes. As I said, I've been through this before with my last two instructors and it will come around."

The former world No. 1 believes his performance this week was "a step in the right direction."

"I improved a lot considering where I was at Torrey Pines a couple of weeks ago," Woods said of the tournament where he had his worst season-opening performance. "Obviously, I didn't finish the way I needed to win. ... Put myself there after two rounds and just didn't get it done."

Woods tied for 44th at Torrey Pines, where he had won the last five times he had played and had never finished out of the top 10.

On Sunday Woods couldn't have missed the cheers as Quiros chipped in for an eagle on No. 2 and then added several more birdies to move to 11 under and five shots ahead of Woods after six holes. By the turn, most fans

had started shifting their attention to the duel between Quiros, Anders Hansen of Denmark and James Kingston of South Africa.

Woods still had a mathematical chance as he came onto the 14th when he was four shots back with five holes to go.

But Woods hit his drive into the rocks, a second into the bunker and then missed an easy par put to settle for bogey that ended his chances. He finished with three more pars and the double bogey on 18.

A victory here would have drawn a line in the sand for the beleaguered Woods.

This would have been his 12th win outside the PGA Tour and perhaps his biggest since the Thanksgiving night car accident in 2009 that derailed his run as the world's top golfer.

For Woods, it's back to the driving range and the hope that he can make his mark at the upcoming Match Play Championships, starting Feb. 23 at Dove Mountain in Arizona.

"I know what I can do in the game and Sean and I are trying to get there," Woods said.



# Lions, Fielders win in Seniors; Ol'Aces triumph in Juniors

By **WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND**  
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REPORTER



The IT&E Ol'Aces defeated the Rep. Ramon S. Basa-Kagman Lions via run-rule, 12-2, in their Saipan Little League Baseball Association Junior Division matchup last Feb. 6 at Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

In Senior League play, the Saipan Shipping-Pacific Amusement Jets endured a pair of tough losses back on the weekend of Feb. 5 and 6.

The Jets were shut out by the Tan Siu Lin-Rep. Fred DL Guerrero-Rep. Ramon S. Basa Kagman Lions, 0-9, and were busted again the next day by the

Tan Siu Lin Fielders, 2-8, also at the Palacios Ballfield.

Pitching woes and errant infield throws allowed by the Jets are giving them a number of issues to improve on before their upcoming game against CTSI-Ol'Aces this Thursday night.

## SENIOR DIVISION Lions 9, Jets 0

The home team Lions built an early 3-0 lead in the first inning off a walk, errors, and an RBI double by Ricardo Dela Cruz. The Lions added two runs in the second off an RBI single by Tim DL Guerrero, who later scored off a wild pitch. Then the Lion's Greg Iskawa stole home in the third frame and DL Guerrero poked a second RBI

single in the fourth inning to make it, 7-0, Lions. The Jets were shut out again to start the fifth and the Lions' DL Guerrero belted a two-RBI double in the bottom frame. Both teams came up empty in the sixth and the Lions held down the shut out in the top of the seventh. Winning pitcher Leroy Reyes went all seven and gave up just two hits with two walks. Lions' DL Guerrero batted 3-for-4 with four RBIs, two runs, and a stolen base.

## Fielders 8, Jets 2

The home team Fielders broke the ice with three runs in the second inning off one hit and sketchy pitching. Then they added two more in the third off two hits a walk and some wild pitches.

## FIFTH

From Page 28

where he works as lanes supervisor. Talavera said of the five perfect games, the first one is always the most memorable one.

"It was something you never expected coming and also during that time a company sponsored a perfect game and gave a quiet big prize for that," Talavera said.

A perfect game was worth \$5,000

## MISTER

From Page 28

Andrea Engelhardt and Amy Sletten, then Samantha Calvo and Charnessa Lizama before besting Nicole LeBlanc and Heather Kennedy en route to the finals. LeBlanc and Kennedy arose from the loser's bracket, but also fell short of forcing a finals rematch.

For the Love of Volleyball also served as the fourth CNMI National Beach Volleyball Team qualifier. It was a warm-up tournament too for NMIVA's upcoming 2011 Marianas Cup Annual Pro-Am

## 24 PAIRS

From Page 28

round were Sakura Sato and Malika Miyawaki, who topped Gabriel Colombo and A.J. Hudkins, 7-5, 6-4. Sato and Miyawaki's second round foes were Tim Goodwin and Chris Cajigan, who were seeded first in the event and drew a bye in the second round.

Junior netter Melody Johnson teamed up with Steve Nutting and they prevailed over Michael Johnson and Steven Goodwin at the Fiesta Resort & Spa Saipan tennis court, 6-2, 6-2, to arrange a second round meeting against Jodel Fernandez and Tiffany Madlambayan. Fernandez and Madlambayan

Tournament, which takes place at Fiesta Resort & Spa during the 19th Annual Marianas Cup Beach Volleyball Festival from Feb. 24 to 27.

Mister and Nelson continue to dominate the men's division, winning all four trials with just one more qualifier to go. In similar fashion, Matson and Amanda Clarkson have participated in three of the four qualifiers, and reigned supreme in all three to secure a strong lead in the women's field.

Epley and Elliot finished second in the men's division, while LeBlanc and Kennedy settled for runner-up in the women's field.

outclassed Feel Kalen and Sakura Imaya, 6-2, 4-6, 10-8.

Mimi Castro and Alex Park swept Mayling Colombo and Lloyd Kim, 6-1, 6-0, to advance over Boyet Minor and Luther Lizama, who whipped Kinumi Taniguchi and Quintin Ramsey, 6-1, 6-0.

Negahr Ratguiy and Lydia Tan gained a bye in the upper half of the draw and were pitted in the second round against Kazumi Imai and Mondo Taniguchi, who won over Karen Ramsey and Eddie Cho at the Pacific Islands Club tennis court, 6-2, 6-3.

Other pairs that moved to the next round were Tomo Imazato and Bob Kim, Alfie Madlambayan and Gabriele Colombo, Theecel Minor and Josh Abragan, Jake Lee and Colin Ramsey,

44th Philippine Bowling Association Saturday Night League, also at SBC. Castro was presented with a plaque and \$100 for his feat.

Besides Talavera and Castro, other members of the perfect game club are Benny Pangelinan, Jaime Sasamoto, Jonathan Hensley, Dannie Robles, Raymond Zapanta, Richard Leong, Arnel Del Rosario, Efren Cacdac, and Raymond Angeles. Pangelinan was the first kegler to have a perfect game, making an impressive performance on March 10, 1982.

Notably, LeBlanc and Kennedy finished second in three of the four qualifiers, while the event was Epley and Elliot's first appearance in the qualifier series.

Other men's qualifier notables include Clay McCullough-Stearns with two third place finishes and a fourth and fifth place finish and Gechig who has two third place finishes and a fourth place finish. Women's notables include Mili Saiki and Kelley Butcher who have a pair of third places finishes and a second place finish. Butcher has an additional fourth place finish from the first qualifier.

Maru and Moris Villanueva, and Emily Jones and Peter Loken.

The lower half draw had Tommy Choi and Amy Arenovski, Jim Tuttle and Ami Tsukagoshi, Andy Nutting and Justin Poon, Eric Abragan and Adele Hudkins, Michael Ren and Hector Benitez, Mike Kong and Haruya Eda, Rafael Jones and Carl Dela Cruz, Gary Ramsey and Seiya Eda, Abe Malae and Dylan Ackerman, Kesuke Takagi and Jeane Bracken, Bobby Cruz and S.H. Lee, Christian Miller and Tania Tan, Jeff Race and Primo Po, Peter Loyola and Tammy Ackerman as second round qualifiers.

Second round games were played Sunday and results were unavailable at press time. The remaining games will be played this weekend.

## SALTY

From Page 28

his team ahead, 2-1. Manny Ada came around with him to the plate.

Salty answered with seven runs in the bottom frame. Salty did the damage with five hits, a double, a couple fielder's choices and a walk.

After a scoreless third, Gorillaz managed a run in the top of the fourth, but Salty got it back in the bottom half to maintain its lead, 9-3.

Both teams came up empty in the fifth and Salty forced Gorillaz to go 1-2-3 for the third time in the game before tacking on the four runs it needed for the run-rule victory.

Salty's Reyes batted 4-for-4 with four RBIs and four runs; he was a homer-un shy of the cycle.

## Enamo Meta 15, NMC Proa 5

Enamo Meta built a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning. Jovi Omar tripled in Lisa Pangelinan and scored soon after off an error.

NMC-Proa tied the game in the top of the second inning. Sans Annie Matsutaro drove in Sherwin William and Juana Atalig singled home Matsutaro.

Then Proa took a 4-2 lead in the top of the third off a two-RBI single by Felisa Brel that scored Sammy Atalig and Edwina Baulechong.

Enamo answered in the bottom to knot up the game at 4-4. Jenifer Teigita

The Jets finally hit the board with a run in the top of the fourth and managed another run at the start of the fifth after fending off the Fielders.

However, the Fielders got both runs back in the bottom half of the fifth off wild throws and added another run in the bottom of the sixth in similar fashion. Notably, the Fielders scored eight runs off only three hits and simply took advantage of every mistake the Jets made. They actually struck out more than the Jets in the game, 13-10.

## JUNIOR DIVISION Ol'Aces 12, Lions 2

The visiting Ol'Aces pounced the Lions, 12-2, in six innings. They scored three runs in the first inning; two off er-

rors and the third came in off a RBI double by Kenji Yamagata.

Then Ol'Aces added two runs with two hits and some errors in the third inning. Ol'Aces' Jesse Brel delivered a run in the fourth and Yamagata poked in another RBI in the fifth to make it 7-0.

The Lions managed two runs in the bottom half, but the Aces roared back with back-breaking five runs in the top of the sixth. The Lions came up empty in the bottom frame and succumbed to Ol'Aces via run rule. Winning pitcher Terson Eina went the distance and allowed two unearned runs off four hits with five strikeouts and a walk. Ol'Aces' Yamagata batted 3-for-4 with two RBIs.



## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### NBA STANDINGS

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

##### Atlantic Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	39	14	.736	—
New York	27	26	.509	12
Philadelphia	26	28	.481	13 1/2
New Jersey	17	38	.309	23
Toronto	15	40	.273	25

##### Southeast Division

Miami	39	15	.722	—
Orlando	35	21	.625	5
Atlanta	33	20	.623	5 1/2
Charlotte	23	31	.426	16
Washington	15	38	.283	23 1/2

##### Central Division

Chicago	36	16	.692	—
Indiana	24	28	.462	12
Milwaukee	20	33	.377	16 1/2
Detroit	20	35	.364	17 1/2
Cleveland	9	46	.164	28 1/2

#### WESTERN CONFERENCE

##### Southwest Division

San Antonio	45	9	.833	—
Dallas	38	16	.704	7
New Orleans	33	23	.589	13
Memphis	30	26	.536	16
Houston	25	30	.455	20 1/2

##### Northwest Division

Oklahoma City	34	19	.642	—
Denver	31	24	.564	4
Utah	31	24	.564	4
Portland	30	24	.556	4 1/2
Minnesota	13	41	.241	21 1/2

##### Pacific Division

L.A. Lakers	38	17	.691	—
Phoenix	26	26	.500	10 1/2
Golden State	24	29	.453	13
L.A. Clippers	20	34	.370	17 1/2
Sacramento	13	38	.255	23

#### Yesterday's Games

Boston 85, Miami 82  
Orlando 89, L.A. Lakers 75  
Memphis 116, Denver 108  
Washington 115, Cleveland 100  
Portland 105, Detroit 100  
Toronto 98, L.A. Clippers 93  
Golden State 100, Oklahoma City 94  
Sacramento 113, Phoenix 108

### PEBBLE BEACH NATIONAL PRO-AM SCORES

**PEBBLE BEACH, California (AP)**—Scores Sunday from the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am, played at the 6,816-yard, par-72 Pebble Beach Golf Links (p), the 6,953-yard, par-72 Spyglass Hill (s), and the 6,838-yard, par-70 Monterey Peninsula Country Club (m):

#### FINAL ROUND

D.A. Points (500), \$1,134,000	63m-70s-71p-67-271
Hunter Mahan (300), \$680,400	70s-67p-70m-66-273

Luis Arriola and Tyrone Omar.

V-Power managed to get a run back in the bottom frame when Ben Mesa drove in Ron Benavente.

Then V-Power forced Red Eye into a 1-2-3 inning to start the third and took a 4-3 lead in the bottom half. Eric Tenorio busted a two-run homer that brought in J.P. Sablan and John Acosta scored later off a fielder's choice.

It was three up and three down again for Red Eye and V-Power added two runs to lead, 6-3, in the bottom of the third. Benavente doubled home George Daniel and was brought home in the next at bat by Fred Sato.

Red Eye remained cold in the top of the fourth and V-Power extended its lead to 9-3 in the bottom frame. Henry

Reyes hit a two-RBI single and E.J. Tenorio connected with a RBI double.

Red Eye managed a couple of runs to start the fifth. They loaded the bases and scored a freebie off a walk. Then Noki Torres brought home Zack Dela Cruz with a sacrifice fly.

V-Power stalled in the bottom frame and Red Eye added a run to trail, 6-9, in the top of the sixth off a sacrifice fly by Jack Sablan that scored Arriola.

V-Power's Tenorio got the run back in the bottom half with one swing and V-Power's defense went on to hold Red Eye to just a pair of runs in the top of the seventh and final inning. Eric Tenorio jolted two homers in the game along with four RBIs for V-Power.

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



# 2011 SSC International Invitational Meet



Tsunami Saipan's Angel de Jesus races in the 50m freestyle event during the 2011 SSC International Invitational Meet early this month at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool in Marpi.



Tsunami Saipan's Kaisei Toda gasps for air as he goes for the final lap of the 100m freestyle race.

**PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO**



Saipan Swim Club's Grace Kimball does the butterfly part of the 200m individual medley event.



Saipan Swim Club's Victoria Chentsova breathes during the 100m breaststroke event.



The image of Tsunami Saipan's Ryuto Yanai reflects on the water.



Volunteer Robert Torres clicks on his timer, as swimmers plunge into the pool.



Swimmers stretch before the race starts.



Saipan Swim Club's Andrew Kimball waits for the start of the race.



Two swimmers emerge from the water at the same time during the 50m breaststroke race.



Tsunami Saipan's Kaito Yanai races in the 100m backstroke event.





Wizards end  
road winless  
streak at 25

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# Saipan Tribune Sports



Points wins Pebble  
Beach with Murray  
at his side

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

# Fifth perfect game for Robert

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

**R**obert Talavera stretched his perfect game record to five after a flawless performance in the Friday Night Mixed League last week at the Saipan Bowling Center in San Jose.

The 43-year-old bowler hit 300 on lanes 9 and 10 while playing for the Calculators against a group of youth bowlers.

"I had no good feeling of making another perfect game. Going into last Friday's game, our team was in ninth place as we were playing pretty bad the past weeks," Talavera said, lifting his team from ninth place to second behind Stevedore.

"I just threw the ball with no pressure and then I made it. It was just like a normal game and when you get lucky, no one can stop you."

Talavera recorded his first perfect game on Feb. 15, 2006 and then five months later, he bowled another 300 on July 15, 2006. His second and third perfect games came in style, as he did it on back-to-back days. The third was posted on Sept. 23 on lanes 11 and 12, and the fourth on lanes 3 and 4 on Sept. 24. All of Talavera's perfect games happened in his home turf at SBC,

See **FIFTH** on Page 25

Robert Talavera poses below a sign bearing his name and the dates of his first and second perfect games at the Saipan Bowling Center yesterday.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



## Mister-Nelson, Matson-Clarkson rule For the Love of Volleyball

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND  
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REPORTER



Tyce Mister and Chris Nelson topped a six-team

men's division, while Melody Matson and Amanda Clarkson bested a field of 12 women's duos in last Saturday's For the Love of Volleyball tournament held beachside at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

Hyatt and the Northern Mariana Islands Volleyball Association co-organized the double-elimination, best-of-three sets event.

First place winners received lunch for two gift certificates at Kili Café Terrace and second place finishers each took home a Club Elan day pass.

Mister and Nelson received a first round bye in the competition and knocked down J.R. Gechig and A.J. Aguilar in the second round.

They then went through Aaron Engelhardt and Daniel Clarkson to advance to the finals undefeated. Rob Epley and Greg Elliot battled their way through the loser's bracket, but fell to the champs in one match.

Matson and Amanda Clarkson also started the tournament with a first round bye. They put down See **MISTER** on Page 26



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tyce Mister goes up for a spike while partner Chris Nelson looks on in last Saturday's For the Love of Volleyball tournament held beachside at the Hyatt Regency Saipan.

## 24 pairs prevail in mixed up doubles

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO  
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REPORTER

The 64-team main draw of the mixed up doubles division of the 2011 White Coconut Tennis Classic was down to half after Saturday's games on three various courts.

Thirteen pairs each in the upper and lower halves of the full draw advanced to the next round after winning their first round matches, while six seed-

ed teams earned a free ride to the second round.

Alex Martin and Mimi Sakano are in the upper half of the draw and won over Tina Goodwin and Julia Ishikawa, 6-3, 6-4, at the American Memorial Park tennis court to advance against Daniel Park and Jazmin Rayphand, who defeated Clay McCullough-Stearns and Anna Calvert, 6-2, 6-1.

Also making it to the second See **24 PAIRS** on Page 26

Daniel Park, seen here returning a shot to Rafael Jones on Saturday, teamed up with Jazmin Rayphand in beating Clay McCullough-Stearns and Anna Calvert in the mixed up doubles event of the Coconut Classic at the American Memorial Park tennis court last weekend.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



## Salty Boyz, Enamo Meta, V-Power score victories

By WALTER CEPEDA-SUTHERLAND  
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REPORTER

Salty Boyz and V-Power came out on top of their respective men's division matchups, while Enamo Meta notched a win in the women's division against NMC Proa, as the Chamolinian Softball Association's 2nd Annual Budweiser Slow-Pitch Softball League continued last Friday at the Capital Hill Ballfield.

In the first game, Salty Boyz pounced on Gorillaz, 13-3, in six innings. Then Enamo Meta routed Proa, 15-5, in five frames, while V-Power held on to defeat

Red Eye in the finale, 10-8.

Softball action continues tomorrow night with a men's division triple-header featuring V-Power against Team Familia at 6:30pm. Red-Eye will then face off against Natibu at 7:30pm, while Laolao will challenge G-Ballers at 8:30pm.

**Salty Boyz 13, Gorillaz 3**

Salty Boyz took a 1-0 lead in the first when Eric Cabrera drove in Harlan Reyes.

Gorillaz's Pat Alepuyo then belted a two-run homer in the top of the second inning that put See **SALTY** on Page 26

